

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

BS - BOSTON

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Department of Justice

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Declassification
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 FBI Automatic
 Declassification Guide,
 Issued May 24, 2007

BUREAU

Screened by NARA
 (RD-F) 11-07-2013
 FOIA = 59233
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of

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

See also Nos.

Volume Number
 Serials

Lead 1-10-72

Date prepared

11/17/71

Date received

11/12/71

Received from (name or symbol number)

[Redacted]

Received by

SA CHARLES C. WILSON

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☒ in person

☐ by telephone

☐ by mail

☐ orally

☒ copying
recording device

☐ written by informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:
Date

Date of Report

7/14/71

Date(s) of activity

12/11/70

Dictated _____ to _____

Transcribed _____ FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

Authenticated
by Informant _____

Brief description of activity or material

Copy of info re CHIPS received

from Pasadena Police Dept. CONCERNING

HEADLINES PRESS (100-78509)

File where original is located if not attached

[Redacted]

* INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY AN ASTERISK (*) ONLY ATTENDED A MEETING AND DID NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE.
VIOLENCE OR REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

☐ Information recorded on a card index by _____ on date _____

Remarks: A copy of the attached list is being furnished to each field div. for each underground newspaper located at that location, though some of these may now be defunct. For information of recipient offices, source is unable to furnish any further info re these papers.

2 - ALBANY REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (FIST)

(1 - 100-) (NASSAU SUFFOLK H.S.
FREE PRESS)

1 - ALEXANDRIA REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT)

1 - BIRMINGHAM REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (EBB TIDE)

14 - BOSTON REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (APPLE JACK)

(1 - 100-) (THE ARKE)

(1 - 100-) (BRASS TACKS)

(1 - 100-) (CHELMSFORD FREE PRESS)

(1 - 100-) (IN THE HEART OF THE
BEAST)

(1 - 100-) (INSIGHT PUBLICATIONS)

CHANNELIZED
DATE 11-29-71 *amm*

SEARCHED
DATE 11-29-71 *amm*

100-44050-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 6 - 1972	
FBI - BOSTON	

offen

CCW/cmm

Read by CCW

BOSTON REGISTERED cont'd

(1 - 100-) (JOTTINGS)
(1 - 100-) (MARK MC CAIN)
(1 - 100-) (LEE GOODWIN)
(1 - 100-) (JOHN MELLEN)
(1 - 100-) (H.S. PAPER) (name unknown)
(1 - 100-) (RUNNING DOG)
(1 - 100-) (SATYAGRAHA)
(1 - 100-) (SMASH)

7 - CHICAGO REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (ABOVE A WHISPER)
(1 - 100-) (GRASS HIGH)
(1 - 100-) (NEW FREE PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (THE PARALAX)
(1 - 100-) (SPUD TATER)
(1 - 100-) (TOEHOLD)
(1 - 100-) (THE MIDNIGHT SPECIAL)

7 - CINCINNATI REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (AYE OF GOD)
(1 - 100-) (GENESIS)
(1 - 100-) (FRESH WIND)
(1 - 100-) (POUITY)
(1 - 100-) (REVELATIONS)
(1 - 100-) (SPEAK EASY)
(1 - 100-) (LOOSE STUFFINGS)

2 - CLEVELAND REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (DARK HORSE)
(1 - 100-) (FREE)

3 - DENVER REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (IRON TOWER)
(1 - 100-) (NOUS)
(1 - 100-) (STUDENT REPRINTS)

3 - DETROIT REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (ODYSSEY)
(1 - 100-) (RIPPED)
(1 - 100-) (VENCEREMOS)

1 - EL PASO REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (BALL AND CHAIN)

6 - INDIANAPOLIS REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (ALTERNATIVE)
(1 - 100-) (DESIDERATA)
(1 - 100-) (ORCI)
(1 - 100-) (QUACK)
(1 - 100-) (REVELATION)
(1 - 100-) (STEEPLE)

7 - KANSAS CITY REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (BIRD)
(1 - 100-) (KANSAS CITY H.S. STUDENT MOBILIZER)
(1 - 100-) (KAO KRAP)
(1 - 100-) (SUSAN GAULT)
(1 - 100-) (DO IT)
(1 - 100-) (BENNETT WILSON)
(1 - 100-) (FREED SPEAK)

4 - LOUISVILLE REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (BROTHERHOOD)
(1 - 100-) (GOOD LIFE)
(1 - 100-) (DUPONT II)
(1 - 100-) (PORNO SLUT)

2 - MILWAUKEE REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (PAGE II)
(1 - 100-) (STUDENT FREE PRESS)

3 - MINNEAPOLIS REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (ECLECTIC)
(1 - 100-) (OPTIONS)
(1 - 100-) (SOUTH DAKOTA WHIPPERSNAPPER)

4 - NEWARK REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (HERE AND NOW)
(1 - 100-) (ERGO)
(1 - 100-) (PROF. ARNOLD GRISWINKLES MAGIC)
(1 - 100-) (PYC PAPERS)

4 - NEW HAVEN REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (FREE)
(1 - 100-) (MYTH)
(1 - 100-) (THE STUDENT FREE PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (WE DARE TO BE FREE)

5 - NEW ORLEANS REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (COMMON GROUND)
(1 - 100-) (HI BIRD FREE PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (LAWRENCE ZEILENGER)
(1 - 100-) (FREE PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (THOUGHTS)

11 - NEW YORK REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (GREAT MOTOR PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (HIGH SCHOOL RISING)
(1 - 100-) (JAILBREAK)
(1 - 100-) (DAILY PLANET)
(1 - 100-) (NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE)
(1 - 100-) (OLD MOLE)
(1 - 100-) (BILL MORIARITY)
(1 - 100-) (PREP PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (RENEGADE)
(1 - 100-) (MASSAPEQUA FREE PRESS)
(1 - 100-) (UNDERGROUND RAG)

1 - OKLAHOMA CITY REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (TERMITE)

3 - OMAHA REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (HIRAM)
(1 - 100-) (FLASHING)
(1 - 100-) (MILESTONES)

3 - PHILADELPHIA REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (THE OBSERVER)
(1 - 100-) (THE PAPER)
(1 - 100-) (RED ARMY)

2 - PITTSBURGH REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (LIBERATOR)
(1 - 100-) (FREEDOM WRITER)

3 - PORTLAND REGISTERED

(1 - 100-) (JAILBREAK)
(1 - 100-) (THE PHOENIX)
(1 - 100-) (S. W. SUN)

- 2 - RICHMOND REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (ALICIA TODD)
 - (1 - 100-) (QUACKS)
- 4 - SACRAMENTO REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (ALTA CALIFORNIA)
 - (1 - 100-) (GAP)
 - (1 - 100-) (DOWNWIND)
 - (1 - 100-) (VOLUNTEERS)
- 1 - SAN ANTONIO REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (REVOLUTIONS IN THE HALLS)
- 2 - SAN DIEGO REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (FOUR FLIGHTS UP)
 - (1 - 100-) (TWO WEEK LEAK)
- 1 - SAN FRANCISCO REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (THIS IS IT UNDERGROUND)
- 2 - SPRINGFIELD REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (NOG)
 - (1 - 100-) (STUDENT REGISTER)
- 1 - TAMPA REGISTERED
 - (1 - 100-) (FIRST AMENDMENT)
- 2 - WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE
 - (1 - 100-) (FLY BY NIGHT)
 - (1 - 100-) (STRUGGLE)

100-78403 (KENNETH CHARLES JACKSON)
 100-68654 (PEACE ACTION COUNCIL)
 100-78458 (GARY CAMPBELL)
 100-76350 (RED SUN TRIBE)
100-78509 (HEADLINES PRESS)

INDEX: CHICAGO INDEPENDENT HIGH SCHOOL PRESS SERVICE
 JOHN SCHALLER
 STERN FAMILY FUND AND FORD FOUNDATION
 PHILIP M. STERN
 DOUBLETHINE
 MARGERY CREAM
 COME TOGETHER
 KNIGHTS BANANA
 LOCAL ROCKS
 DAWN
 NEW IMPROVED TIDE
 THE STASH
 STAR SPANGLED REVOLUTIONARY PRESS
 TRASH

MEMORANDUM — CI OF PASADENA

To: LAPD/LASO Intelligence Dtls.

Date: 7/14/71

From: Sgt. Gardner, Pasadena PD.

Re: CHIPS

Enclosed is latest info on Cooperative Highskool Independent Press Syndicate (They spell school with a "K" whenever they remember.)

CHIPS originated in Chicago, where it was known as the Chicago Independent High School Press Service, in March, 1969. The founder, John Schaller, moved to Houston, Texas in the summer of 1970. The first issue of CHIPS, FPS was published in September, 1970. FPS according to the publication officially stood for nothing but unofficially stood for "fuck public school". FPS #1 was entitled, SCREW YOUR SCHOOL, and listed a number of methods of disrupting school procedures, damaging school property, and various other injurious schemes.

On 12/11/70 CHIPS announced that they had moved to 3210 Grace St. N.W. Washington D.C. 338-6318. They also announced that they were to be funded and could lower their rates. (Stern Family Fund and Ford Foundation, not announced by CHIPS). They moved into the office of the Student Information Center which was a development of the U.S. Office of Education, Dept. of HEW. They were later ousted for anti-government activities but then received funding from Philip M. Stern, Family Fund. The CENTER FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE 1000 Wisconsin Ave. Wash. DC. was used as a conduit to get moneies to SIC as SIC had no tax exemption. Thus, CHIPS/FPS was able to obtain money funded to Center for Community Change, through Student Information Center.

The members, Highschool Underground Presses, numbered about 150 at that time. There has been a period of quiet, but in June, 1971 there is information to suggest a renewed effort by CHIPS to recruit members nation wide. Enclosed is a list of the members and subscribers.

ORAL messages waste your time and the time of the other person. PUT IT IN WRITING.

MORANDUM—CITY OF PASADENA

To:

Date:

From:

Re:

FOIA(b) (6)

Originally, the member in the Pasadena Area was called DOUBLETHINK at 3365 Grayburn, Pasa. (Chapman Woods County). This address belongs to Margery Cream, a liberal attorney. No issues of Doublethink have been seen and it is believed that the publication never got off the ground.

The new CHIPS list indicates the Pasadena area member is KNIGHTS BANANA and gives PO Box 1104 Pasa. This box belongs to Kenneth Charles Jackson 11830 Deana #4 El Monte. 579-0976. Dr. Lic. [REDACTED] Authorized to receive mail are: HEADLINES PRESS (this is another name listed for Knight's Banana), Jack Nelson, (UNK), & Clearlight, a publishing house for the Peace Action Council.

Jackson is reportedly active in PAC and other movements.

Information from your files concerning Jackson and other persons mentioned would be appreciated.

J. Gardner

Gary Campbell & Ken Jackson are active in Peace Action Council.

Red Sun Tribe appears to be a San Gabriel Valley faction headed by these individuals.

ORAL messages waste your time and the time of the other person. PUT IT IN WRITING.

ABOVE A WHISPER

Jeanne Feeley
2057 Birchwood
Chicago, Ill. 60645

*ALTA CALIFORNIA

4339 N. Safford
Fresno, Calif. 93705

*ALTERNATIVE

Box 2779
Fort Wayne, Ind. 46808

APPLE JACK

Waterville, Maine

THE ARKE

Manchester, N.H.

AYE OF GOD

Columbus, Ohio

BALL AND CHAIN

Box 407
El Paso, Texas 79924

*BIRD

Box 997
Hays, Kansas 67601

*BRASS TACKS

%Lee Goodwin
180 Winch St.
Framingham, Mass. 01701

BROTHERHOOD

Louisville, Ky.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*CHELMSFORD FREE PRESS

%John Mellen
9 Sylvan Ave.
Chelmsford, Mass. 01824

*COME TOGETHER

Box 163
Encino, Calif. 91316

COMMON GROUND

%Lawrence Zeilenger
5853 Oxford Place
New Orleans, La. 70114

*DAILY PLANET

Brooklyn, N.Y.
(Correspondence c/o CHIPS)

DARK HORSE

Munroe Falls, Ohio

DAWN

Downey, Calif.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*DESIDERATA

54380 N. 31st St.
South Bend, Ind. 46635

DO IT

Bennett Wilson
1130 Grand Ave.
Carthage, Mo. 64836

DOWNWIND

Fair Oaks, Calif.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

DUPONT II

PO Box 249
Bardstown, Ky. 40004

EBB TIDE

Siluria, Alabama
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*ECLECTIC

Box 743
Albert Lea, Minn. 56007

*ERGO

337 Orenda Cr.
Westfield, N.J. 07090

*FIRST AMENDMENT

Sarasota, Fla.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

FIST

Box 203
Fayetteville, NY 13066

*FLASHING

1411 163rd Ave.
Omaha, Neb. 68137

*FLY BY NIGHT

3712 Military Rd. NW
Wash, D.C. 20015

FOUR FLIGHTS UP

San Diego, Calif.

FREE
Box 45
Watertown, Conn. 06795

FREE!
Box 886
Youngstown, Ohio 44501

FREE PRESS
Box 73431
Metairie, La. 70003

*FREED SPEAK
Box 994
Lawrence, Kansas 66044

*FREEDOM WRITER
P.O. Box 169
Charleston, West Va. 25321

*FRESH WIND
2555 Coventry Rd.
Shaker Hts, Ohio 44120

*GALAXI
10124 99 St. S.Y.O.U.
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada

*GAP
Sacramento, Calif.

*GENESIS
11690 Lawnview Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45240.

*GOOD LIFE
Louisville, Ky.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*GRASS HIGH
Joliet, Ill.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

GREAT MOTOR PRESS
Yonkers, N.Y.

*HERE AND NOW
Box 1255
Wall, N.J. 07719

HI BIRD FREE PRESS
P.O. Box 667
Shreveport, La. 71101

HIGH SCHOOL RISING
& Leapschool
540 E. 13th St.
New York, N.Y. 10009

*HIRAM
David Gendler
1115 North 60th St.
Omaha, Neb. 68132

HONEYBUCKET
Rick Fadar
MOT Yellowknife
NWT, Canada

HORROW COUNTY SHEET
Stanmore, England

*IN THE HEART OF THE BEAST
P.O. Box 456
Leominster, Mass. 01453

*INSIGHT PUBLICATIONS
7 Hancock St.
Dover, N.H. 03820

*INTER HIGH
843 E. 7th Ave.
Vancouver 10
British Col. Canada

*IRON TOWER
Rte. 2
Box 203
Ft. Collins, Colo. 80521

*JAILBREAK
3670 NW Roosevelt
Corvallis, Ore. 97330

*JAILBREAK
YAWF
58 W. 25 St.
New York, N.Y. 10010

*JOTTINGS
Mark McCain
Salisbury, N.H. 03268

KANSAS CITY H.S. STUDENT MOBILIZER
Kansas City, Mo.

*KAO KRAP
Susan Gault
6013 N. Howard
Kansas City, Mo. 64118

*KNIGHTS BANANA
Headlines
Box 1104
Pasadena, Calif. 91102

HIGH SCHOOL AND JR. HIGH UNDERGROUNDS, cont.

LIBERATED SPINACH
13 Yew Crt.
Sherwood Park
Edmonton, Alberta Canada

LIBERATOR
St. Albans, West Va.

*LIBERATOR
33069 Grennada
Livonia, Mich. 48150

*LOCAL ROCKS
Box 24 A 03
Los Angeles, Calif. 90024

*LOOSE STUFFINGS
Jewett, Ohio
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*MASSAPEQUA FREE PRESS
% Paul Dashefsky
21 Wenwood Dr.
Massapequa Park, N.Y. 11762

*THE MIDNIGHT SPECIAL
217 Linden
Oak Park, Ill. 60303

*MILESTONES
% Gary Reeder
308 E. Bradford
West Union, Iowa 52175

MYTH
Bridgeport, Conn.

*NASSAU SUFFOLK H.S. FREE PRESS
Box 852
Helville, N.Y. 11746

*NEW FREE PRESS
7725 Karlov
Skokie, Ill. 60076

*NEW IMPROVED TIDE
2020 Redcliff St.
Los Angeles, Calif. 90039

*NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE
110 St. Marks Place
New York, N.Y. 10009

NOG
304 East 3rd
Alton, Ill. 62002

NORTH YORK NATURAL
9 Greenbush Rd.
Willowdale, Ontario
Canada

*NOUS
1660 Pearl
Denver, Colo. 80203

THE OBSERVER
Swarthmore, Pa.

ODYSSEY
Hancock, Mich.

*OLD MOLE
Bill Moriarty
5 Kenneth Lane
Bay Shore, N.Y. 11706

*OPTIONS
Sioux Falls, S.D.

*ORCI
127 Van Buren Blvd.
Terre Haute, Ind. 47303

PAGE II
Mansfield, Wisc.

*THE PAPER
% Pat Supple
37179 Tripoli
Barstow, Calif. 92311

THE PAPER
5714 Drexel Rd.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19131

*THE PARALAX
Box 493
Libertyville, Ill. 60048

H. S. paper (name unknown)
% Kevin Pettee
Goyette Dr.
Peterborough, N.H. 03458

*THE PHOENIX
% John Shirley
720 Dietz NE
Salem, Ore. 97303

*POIUYT
611 Fourth St.
Marietta, Ohio 45750

PO BOX SHUT
8619 Shields
1626 Meadowthope Ave.
Lexington, Ky. 40505

*PREP PRESS
8 St. John's Press
82 Lewis Ave.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11206

PROF. ARNOLD GRISWINKLES MAGIC
ELIXIR FOR CURE OF CREEPING MIND
ROT
Brick Twp, N.J.

*PYC PAPERS
315 Mountain Ave.
North Plainfield, N.J. 07060

QUACK
Terre Haute, Ind.

*QUACK
8 Alicia Todd
207 Sunset Blvd.
Blackburg, Va. 24060

*RAG TIMES
8 HIPS
10124 99th St. 8 Y.O.U.
Edmonton, Alberta
Canada

RED ARMY
Box 1986
Philadelphia, Pa. 19105

*RENEGADE
Bronxville, N.Y.

*REVELATION
Indianapolis, Ind.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*REVELATIONS
8 Lenore Kline
6883 Big Creek Pkwy.
Middleburg Hts, Ohio 44130

REVOLUTION IN THE WALLS
Killeen, Texas

*RIP OFF NEWS
8 Dave Rosen
660 Cardinal St.
St. Laurent, 379, Quebec
Canada

*RIPPED
Ionia, Mich.

*RUNNING DOG
8 Geoff Hall
36 Church St.
Bridgewater, Mass. 02324

*SATYAGRAMA
8 Sheryl Trainor
3 Cairo Circle
Scituate, Mass. 02066

*SMASH
8 Abe Kasparian, Jr.
Box 1882
Springfield, Mass. 01101

SOUTH DAKOTA WHIPPERSNAPPER
Aberdeen, S.D.

*S.W. SUN
Portland, Ore.

SPEAK EASY
200 Lovers Lane
Steubenville, Ohio 43952

*SPUD TATER
8 Brad Rockwell
336 W. Main St.
Batavia, Ill. 60510

*THE STASH
8APS
Box 5175
Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210

*STAR SPANGLED REVOLUTIONARY PRESS
1177 Las Alturas Rd.
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93103

STEEPLE
Indianapolis, Ind.

STRUGGLE
NABS Center
3418 17th St. NW
Wash. D.C. 20010

*THE STUDENT FREE PRESS
New Britain, Conn.
(correspondence c/o CHIPS)

*STUDENT FREE PRESS
Box 426
Ashland, Wis. 54806

*STUDENT REPRINTS

% Brigid McCaw
300 Jersey
Denver, Colo. 80220

*WE DARE BE FREE

% Karen Kluge
23 Hill Farm Rd.
Weston, Conn. 06880

*STUDENT RESISTOR

% Judy Connell
140 E. North Ave.
Northlake, Ill. 60164

WE'RE NOT GONNA TAKE IT

Box 82
Dunn Loring, Va. 22027

TERMITE

Box 2534
Norman, Okla. 73069

THIRD EYE

750 Spadina Ave.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada

THIS IS IT UNDERGROUND

Oakland, Calif.

THOT

Windsor, Ontario
Canada

THOUGHTS

P.O. Box 667
Shreveport, La. 71101

*TOEHOLD

1206 Hinman
Evanston, Ill. 60202

*TRASH

c/o APS
Box 5175
Beverly Hills, Calif. 90210

*TWO WEEK LEAK

% Maggie Valentino
Box 895
Lake Side, Calif. 92040

*UNDERGROUND RAG

% Paul Bosco
115 West Court Drive
Centereach, New York 11720

VENCEREMOS

Ann Arbor, Mich.

*VOLUNTEERS

% Sue Ose
522 Sydling Ct.
Sacramento, Calif. 95825

* means that the paper is a member of CHIPS-

Cooperative High School
Independent Press Syndicate
3210 Grace St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20007

Where a street address is not given, and only the name of the paper and the city are given, it indicates that we do not know if it is all right to publicize the address that we have for that paper. If your paper is one of these, please let us know what address we can print for you.

WOMEN PRISONERS' NEWSPAPER CONFISCATED—

Inmates in the Framingham, Mass., women's prison write a newspaper called the People's Paper. The second issue of the paper was printed on the outside in February. When bundles were mailed back to the prisoners, Superintendent Gloria Cuzzi refused to deliver them because she said the paper's content was "inflammatory." Natick-Framingham Women's Liberation and Brass Tacks, an underground newspaper, are waging a campaign for the inmates' right to read their own paper. Letters protesting the denial of these women's rights can be sent to John Boone, Commissioner, Massachusetts Corrections Department, 100 Cambridge St., Boston, Mass. 02202. Donations to help keep the People's Paper going can be sent to People's Paper, c/o Brass Tacks, Box 82, Cohituate, Mass. 01778. Make checks payable to Brass Tacks.

"The Militant"
4-28-72

Brass Tacks
SM-N-L

100-44050-2

Index

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR - 1 1978	
FBI-BOSTON	

File No. BS 100-44050-1A①Date Received 5/18/72From Wayland Police Dept
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

By Lawrence Sullivan
(CITY AND STATE)
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)To Be Returned ☐ Yes☒ NoReceipt given ☐ Yes☒ No

Description:

Two copies
Brass Tacks

May 1972

~~CORRIN J. McGRATH~~
CHIEF OF POLICE

358-4721

WAYLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

WAYLAND, MASSACHUSETTS 01778

SCHUYLER M. (Ted) MEYER, III
YOUTH OFFICER

brass tacks went to press on May 9 shortly after Nixon made his television threat to escalate the war in Indochina. In the immediate future we will be printing emergency bulletins to spread information as the American people demand that the war end NOW!!

For up to date information, call Natick Peace Action at 653-8560. Information for the bulletins and donations to help pay for them may be sent to 'Out Now!', c/o brass tacks, Bx 82, Cochituate 01778

BRASS TACKS

FREE

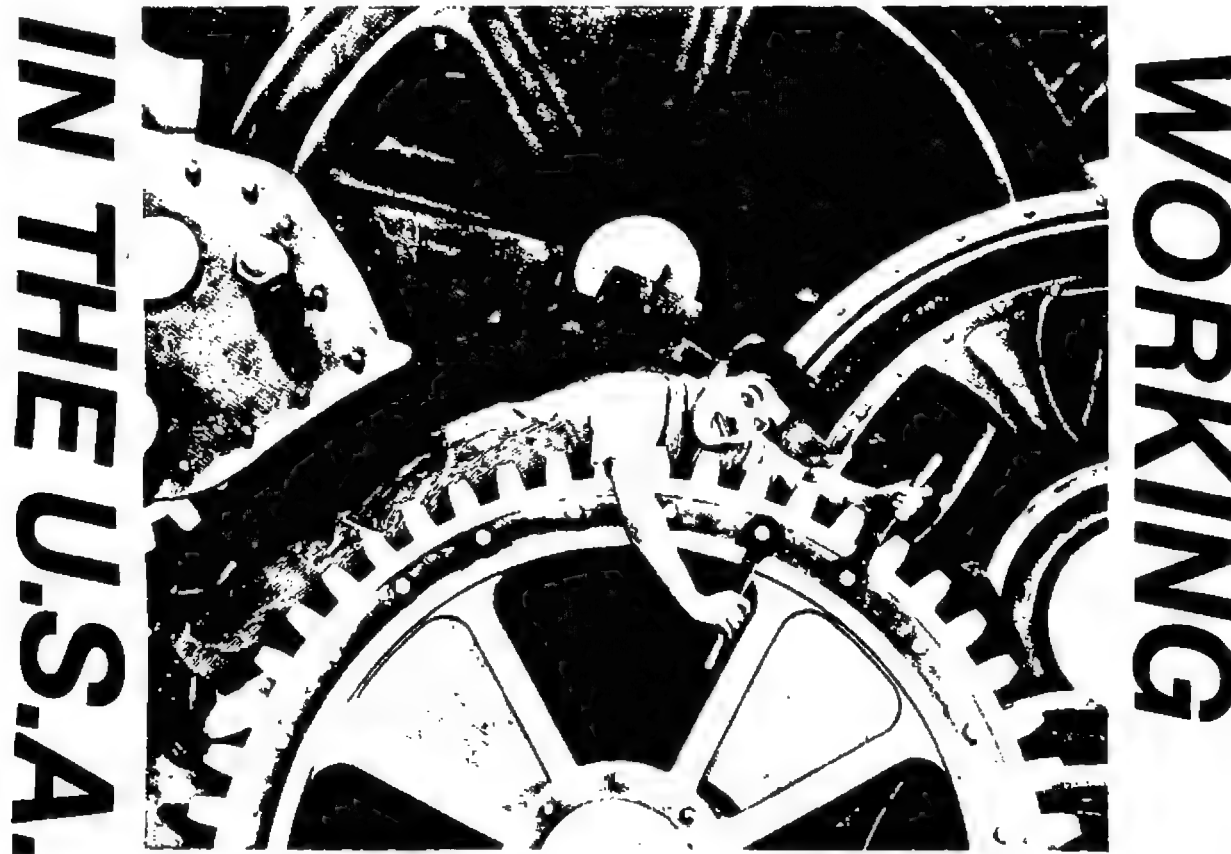
donations
gladly
accepted

VOL. II, NO. 7

MAY 1972

OF and FOR:

NATICK FRAMINGHAM WELLESLEY HOLLISTON ASHLAND DOVER SHERBORN WAYLAND MARLBORO WESTON
PLEASE RECIRCULATE THIS PAPER



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out now!

President Nixon has put our lives on the line in order to save his 'honor' in Indochina. In his continuing attempt to win a military victory he has mined the ports of North Vietnam and announced that he will continue the massive bombing.

Nixon said that he had 3 options: immediate withdrawal, negotiations, or a military escalation. He rejected the former as dishonorable, said the second had failed, and chose to escalate.

The threat of a direct confrontation with the Soviet Union or the Peoples' Republic of China is clear. Nixon is willing to risk this.

Nixon said that the blockade, mining, and bombing would not stop until the liberation forces agree to 2 demands: a ceasefire and the release of American prisoners. These are the same impossible conditions which Nixon tried to force down their throats in Paris. In no

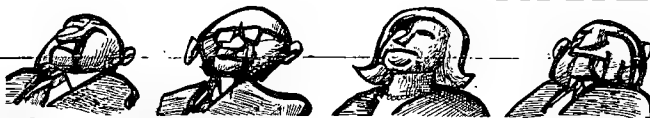
war are the war prisoners released before the hostilities are ended. The Vietnamese have said that the pilots who were raining death on their country will be released when the U.S. withdraws its forces.

A ceasefire with the presence of American troops and weapons is unthinkable to the liberation forces. They were betrayed by the U.S. at the Geneva Accords of 1954 and have no reason to believe us now. As for elections; even if Thieu were to step down, his corrupt government and his tremendous secret police would still make them a farce.

The ARVN are fighting because the Americans say they must. Even U.S. airpower and weapons can't give them the will to fight for a government which they don't support.

The American people have made it clear that they want an immediate end to the war. Nixon has chosen to ignore us. With demonstrations, strikes, letters and telegrams we will let our government and the world know that we want the war ended now. With one voice we must say "OUT NOW!!!" (See cover for more information)

BRASS TACKS



COMUNIDAD UNIDA...

an 'employment problem'

by Paula Casey

The Community Center Board of Directors held their usual monthly meeting on April 5. I was late. I'd spent the day at the printer's in Santuit with issue number 7 of *Comunidad Unida* and the traffic had been heavy on the way back to Framingham.

I didn't particularly want to attend the meeting. My relationship with the Board had begun to be strained and I'd felt a certain hostility and disapproval in previous Board meetings, which usually left me exhausted after a couple hours of constant questioning and criticism.

I distributed the newspaper when I arrived. Most of the Board was there--Chairperson Reverend Charles Gaines, Ria McNiff, George Acosta (an employee of

Raytheon), Jesse Acosta, Susan Brown, Anne Mallet, Paul Marks of Display Crafts, Inc., Fran Miller of Honeywell, Jack Forbes of Fenwal, Attorney Martin Aronson, Father Anthony Vasaturo and Ernestine Young (teacher in the bilingual program at Lincoln School). Missing were Jenara Ayuso and Lucy Ortiz.

The meeting was routine and orderly until it was time for my usual monthly statement of the newspaper's financial status. Unlike other staff members I did not prepare a monthly report. I had discovered in previous meetings that it was unnecessary. Board members always had plenty of questions. This night was no exception.

The Board was concerned with 2 articles which had appeared in the March 1 issue of *Comunidad*

Unida. One had been an interview with Joseph Deschesnes, who is in charge of minority employment at Honeywell. The second article was a commentary on the minority employment situation.

It was critical of businesses which had exploited both their workers and the communities in which they (businesses) were located. Business wasn't doing anywhere near enough for minority persons. According to Deschesnes in June, 1971, Honeywell in Framingham employed 50 minority persons in a work force of 1200; most of those 50 persons were black and oriental professionals. At the time of the interview--March, 1972--Deschesnes said 6.5% of a work force of 1300 were minority group persons. Since November, 1972, Honeywell had hired 29 Spanish speaking persons for hour-

ly rate jobs. (Before the article went to press, I called Deschesnes to recheck my figures. His information was relayed to me through a secretary, but yes, my information was correct.)

The article also talked about racism in the employment situation.

First of all, the Chairperson, Reverend Gaines, reprimanded me for my manners. It seemed Deschesnes had complained about the articles--to a member of the Board, not to me, the person who had written the articles. Deschesnes felt he had been misquoted, the information was inaccurate and the article was critical. The Board felt that since the article was critical, I really had a responsibility to show the article to Deschesnes before publication.

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WAR COVERAGE...

Isn't it about time the people of the Greater Framingham area had an alternative to the Texas-owned *South Middlesex News*?

For ten years the *NEWS* has unstintingly parroted the government's discredited line about Vietnam. Now, during the current offensive of the Vietnamese people against the Thieu dictatorship, the *NEWS* once again has proven itself a highly competent propaganda organ for the U.S. and Saigon governments.

Invasion?

According to the *NEWS*, the escalation of U.S. bombing in North Vietnam has occurred because of the "invasion" of South Vietnamese territory by the "Reds" from North Vietnam. "396 Reds Killed" said the *NEWS* headline of April 11, 1972.

Who are these "reds" the *NEWS* talks about? They are the people of Vietnam, North and South, fighting to oust the corrupt Saigon regime supported by the U.S. government. Many are native south Vietnamese, members of the NLF. Many others are their allies from the northern part of Vietnam. It is these people, declares the *NEWS*, who are "invading" South Vietnam. The *NEWS* editorial of April 17 declared, "North Vietnam's invasion of the South has radically altered the course of the Vietnam war."

It would behoove the *South Middlesex News* to recognize one simple fact: Vietnam is ONE country. The people who live in Vietnam are Vietnamese. How is it possible for the Vietnamese to invade Vietnam when Vietnam is the home of the Vietnamese?

SOUTH MIDDLESEX
DAILY
NEWS

'playing with words'

By calling the North Vietnamese offensive an "invasion" the *NEWS* has adopted the Nixon line that the North Vietnamese have broken the Geneva Accords of 1954. To understand what is presently going on, it is important to untangle the web of lies and distortions fed the American people by the Nixon administration and its knee-

The Accords stipulated that within two years, in a free and internationally supervised election, the Vietnamese people would choose a regime to govern a reunited Vietnam. All observers at the time (including President Eisenhower) recognized that the communists, led by Ho Chi Minh, would win those elections.

Therefore, the U.S. government encouraged Diem, the puppet dictator it had installed in the south, to disregard the Accords and cancel the elections. For several years after this, the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong continued to insist on the implementation of the Geneva Accords. They ceased emphasizing this demand only after the massive intervention of U.S. ground and air forces into Vietnam rendered the provisions completely meaningless.

Thus, contrary to the belief of the *South Middlesex News*, the presence of North Vietnamese troops in the south does not constitute an "invasion". The North Vietnamese and the NLF have firmly claimed that Vietnam is one country and that the Vietnamese people have the right to fight against the Saigon administration whose ability to remain in power depends not on the people of Vietnam but on American military support.

Base of Support

But what about the offensive itself? What is actually happening on the battlefields in the South? It is important here to understand that the way the two sides fight corresponds to the political base upon which each relies.

On the one side is the NLF and

their North Vietnamese allies.

Their program is one of national independence and social and economic revolution. In the areas controlled by the NLF, government officials, tax collectors, and landlords have been driven out, opening the way to tangible improvement in the living situation of the people occupying the land.

Even in the often confusing and sometimes incompetent American press reports on the present offensive, occasionally there are reports which give us a glimpse of the significant political differences between the two sides. In an April 15 dispatch from Vietnam, *New York Times* reporter Craig Whitney describes what happened when ARVN troops captured a town:

"The town, heavily damaged by North Vietnamese artillery, is being torn apart... by the South Vietnamese rangers who occupy it. They were sitting in this abandoned house the other day, drinking beer and rice wine left behind by the townspeople."

"All day long the army trucks moving south from Dongha were filled with soldiers and piles of loot--chairs, tables, refrigerators, TV sets, food, chickens, pigs..." the article continued.

The plundering of the ARVN forces stands in stark contrast with NLF behavior in Anloc as reported by AP correspondent Hugh Mulligan who quoted a U.S. general as saying of the communist forces: "We hear they've set up quasi-governments in the sectors (of Anloc) they own and are distributing food and other goodies. The farmers

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jerk supporters in the press.

Geneva

First, the Geneva Accords of 1954 provided for the temporary division of Vietnam into two zones, to facilitate the disengagement of the communists and the French imperialist forces who had been struggling for the previous eight years, a war which had ended with the decisive defeat of the French.

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D

THUMB TACKS

Nam Tac #1

"Not only are the most brutal air attacks of the war being carried out and planned for the future against North Vietnam, the South is also being subjected to the heaviest U.S. bombings of the war." Richard Ward, Guardian, April 26.

Nam Tac #2

"What we are witnessing here-- what is being brutally inflicted on the Republic of Vietnam-- is a clear case of naked and unprovoked aggression across an international border. The only word for it is invasion." President Nixon, TV address, April 26, 1972.

Nam Tac #3

"South Vietnam was essentially the creation of the United States." Conclusion of Department of Defense analyst in the New York Times edition of the Pentagon Papers, p. 25.

Nam Tac #4

"As in previous escalations, U.S. officials are now resorting to slanderous allegations to cover up the truth and to involve the United States in the gears of an extremely dangerous war." Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PRG of the Republic of South Vietnam, in Guardian, April 26.

Nam Tac #5

"The truth is now impossible to escape if we open our eyes. The United States is the most dangerous and destructive power in the world. . . . Only a fool or a madman could believe, now, that more bombing will bring peace to Indochina. Why are we bombing? To

keep Nguyen Van Thieu in Saigon. To make sure that Nixon is not the first American President to lose a war. To teach the Russians a lesson about supplying arms to our enemies. Those are some of the reasons that are advanced.

None of them could remotely justify the disproportionate cost of the bombing in human or political terms." Anthony Lewis in New York Times, April 17.

Nam Tac #6

"The image of a 'peace-loving president,' in search of peace and good will in Peking and Moscow, is gone. (Through his escalation of the bombing) Nixon has unmasked himself for what he is--an unprecedentedly ruthless President who has expended more military ordinance in killing civilians than anyone in history." Wilfred Burchett, Guardian, April 26.

Nam Tac #7

Nixon said allowing a Communist takeover would cause the office of President of the United States to lose respect in the rest of the world "and I will not let that happen." Speech in Floresville, Texas, Boston Globe, May 1.

"The country is governed for the richest, for the corporations, the bankers, the land speculators, and for the exploiters of labor." Helen Keller, 1911

(CPS) "Conventions all over America are bought all the time by the business communities, and everyone in this room knows it." -- Senator Roman Hruska (R., Neb.) exasperated after two weeks of committee hearings about the ITT-Republican Party affair. No one disagreed.



What Equality?

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- Women earn on the average only \$3 for every \$5 earned by men.

The Woman's Bureau, Department of Labor, issuing the report on earnings, said that in 1955 women's median wage was nearly 64% that of men. In 1970, the figure stood at 49.4 per cent.

South Middlesex News

boycott lettuce!

(CPS) The lettuce boycott is on again. The United Farmworkers Organizing Committee has renewed the boycott on non-union lettuce. Lettuce growers have refused to bargain in good faith, and have joined with the Nixon administration in a legal maneuver to kill the union.

UFWOC, which won a five-year struggle to organize grape pickers in California, depends on consumer boycotts for much of its strength. Farmworkers are not covered by federal legislation requiring companies to recognize unions and prohibiting "unfair labor practices." Therefore farmworkers remained unorganized by the big unions, and have had to create their own union and tactics.

The UFWOC's next target was the lettuce growers of California and Arizona. After a strike and a boycott, the growers agreed to negotiate, beginning on March 28, 1971. The UFWOC agreed to suspend the boycott for thirty days. It continued the suspension until March 7, 1972.

By this time it was clear that the lettuce growers would not agree to even the most basic clause of the contract, which would replace the semi-slave system of hiring through "labor contractors" with a new hiring hall system. The boycott was resumed.

On March 8, the UFWOC learned that the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board (a recent Nixon appointee) would file a complaint in Federal court to get boycott activities declared illegal.

The reasoning: although the

farmworkers are not covered by the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act which protect the right to organize, they are covered by the provisions of this and later labor relations laws which restrict the organizing tactics a union can use. In this case, the most important restriction is the outlawing of the secondary boycott ("Don't buy from First National because it insists on buying and selling scab lettuce or wines.")

This decision by the NLRB is a total reversal of policy. The previous general counsel assured the Farmworkers only a little more than a year ago, on March 15, 1971 that the boycott was legal. Several times in past years growers have filed or financed complaints against the boycotts, and each time the Board has ruled that the Farmworkers are not covered by the restrictions.

The Board is controlled by Republican Nixon appointees. Peter Nash, the new counsel, is a former corporation lawyer. One of his clients was Brown-Forman of Kentucky, the sole distributor of Korbel wines. Korbel is also the subject of a UFWOC boycott, and one of the two companies specifically mentioned in Nash's petition to the court.

The UFWOC urges supporters to pressure the Republican Party to reverse this decision. "As this is an election year," a union statement says, "we feel that the Republican Party can be compelled to have the petition for an injunction withdrawn if we have a strong indication of public support."

The court date was originally set for April 6, but has been postponed. UFWOC urges supporters to write to Sen. Robert J. Dole, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Sen. Edward Brooke, Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. And boycott any lettuce that isn't shipped in a box with the UFWOC "Aztec Eagle" symbol.



United Farmworkers are in this area now, working to gather support for the struggle ahead in the lettuce boycott. Your help is desperately needed. It will require little time on your part and will truly make a difference. In order to succeed, we must ask people to make themselves aware of the problem and learn what they can do to help.

If you can get a group together that would be interested in having an informal program or if you are interested in what you can do, please contact:

United Farmworkers
Bruce Cenney
173 Harvard St.
Dorchester, Mass. 02124
282-4085

(CPS) Next time you open a box of breakfast cereal, consider dumping the contents into the trash can, and treating yourself or your kids to the box. A recent study found many dry cereals so lacking in food value, especially protein, that rats fed on a diet of ground-up cereal boxes mixed with milk, sugar, and raisins, maintained better health than other rats fed on the cereal, milk, etc.

Some cereals have vitamins and minerals added to make them more nutritious, but consumers can pay up to thirty times more for these than they would cost in pill form. General Mills' fortified Total, for instance, tastes, looks, and smells the same as Wheaties, but costs 18¢ more for a 12 ounce box. The wholesale cost of the added vitamins in Total is 6/10 of a cent, and the retail cost would be about a penny.

(From the South Baltimore Voice)

WOMEN

THE NEXT ISSUE IS ABOUT US!

The June-July issue of brass tacks will be by and about women. Only women will write and produce it. If you have any poems, artwork, photographs, or articles concerning the joys/sorrows of womanhood send them to:

Brass Tacks
Box 82
Cochituate, Mass. 01778

brass tacks is a community newspaper which presents issues and attitudes not found in the local press, as part of the struggle for progressive social change. Our staff consists of volunteers -- young working people, low income people, high school and college students from the local area.

Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the brass tacks staff. Editorial opinions are expressed in editorials.

Letters to b.t. should be less than 200 words in length. We reserve the right to edit longer letters. Letters to b.t. must include the sender's name and address. The address will not be printed and the name will be withheld on request. Note: there are no gentlemen or ladies on the b.t. staff, nor sirs, nor an editor--just people.

b.t. prints advertising in order to survive. We reserve the right to refuse objectionable copy. We do not necessarily endorse any product advertised, though we will not knowingly print misrepresentational advertisements. Advertising rates are available upon request.

brass tacks subscribes to the Community Press Service.

Contributions of articles, news releases, time, money or moral support are welcome. Inquiries should be sent to:

brass tacks
P.O. Box 82
Cochituate, Mass. 01778

or call 235-9207, 235-3210

brass tacks

Nancy McDonald	Ron Plourde
Gerry Ringer	Adam Hertz
Lynn Blandin	Larry O'Connor
Maria DeFelice	John Rees
Peter Porter	Jack Wall

friends of b.t.

Marilyn Caplin	Jeff Shlager
Anita DeFelice	Diane Bellora
Carol Hillier	
Martha Conners-O'Connor	

'day work lady' sounds off

PAGE 3

The following letter was sent to brass tacks after our February issue. We felt that it would be most appropriate for an inmate at Framingham MCI to answer its charges.

To the Editor:

Comments upon reading "Framingham MCI--Inmates Struggle for Rights," by Maria deFelice and John Rees in your February issue.

I will not quarrel with the description of the sequence of events prior to or following New Year's Eve. I wasn't there.

However, you make some statements and create some impressions that I should like to take issue with.

You said that "jobs on the outside include waitressing, factory work at \$1.60 an hour and maid work at 80¢ an hour." You describe these as stultifying jobs typically given to women in our society and say that they provide cheap labor for manufacturers and middle class housewives.

It is my understanding that the women are given a training program to learn waitressing, a skill that will be useful to them later. All the girls and women I have talked to have been excited about "making board" and having

the opportunity to get out for the day and work as a waitress. The same goes for factory work. To you this type of employment may seem "stultifying." To some of them it may well prove to be otherwise. It may be all that they are intellectually equipped to succeed at.

If you'll study a bit about the history of the Framingham Reformatory you'll discover that it was one of the first prisons in the country to initiate a "day work" program under the leadership of Dr. Miriam Van Waters. It took much planning and work within the community to find suitable placements for the women, as well as skillful preparation within the institution.

It was Dr. Van Waters who wanted the women to feel that they were being trained and rehabilitated and not just "incarcerated." Therefore she called them "students" and not inmates or prisoners. Not a bad idea when you consider that there are various opportunities for the women at the MCI in Framingham to further their education, whether it be to work towards a high school diploma or to take other courses.

As far as "day work" is con-

cerned, I've been a "day work lady" for over 15 years. I pay the women \$1.00 per hour, not 80¢, from the time I pick them up to the time I return them. (We pay for a minimum of seven hours even if the day is shorter). That may sound cheap to you.

Let me tell you what's involved. We, the "day work women" are responsible for the reformatory women for the day. We cannot leave the house and cannot leave them alone. If the woman finds and takes some liquor, aspirin or other medication, it's our responsibility. So all that has to be hidden. Jewelry and money had also better be out of sight. At lunch time we are expected to serve her a proper dinner and not just a sandwich, because she is missing out on her big meal at the institution.

We have a different woman every time. This means showing her around every time and repeating your instructions several times during the day. The woman may be strong and up to a day's work or she may not. She may be good at housework or she may not.

The woman is a stranger and I want her to feel at home. She may be scared because it's her

first time out. She may be scared of me because she's afraid of not meeting my expectations. She may be scared of herself. Will she be able to resist the temptation to run or to take some thing? She may be worried that she won't get back on time or that she might miss an important visitor.

Often she needs to talk--perhaps about her family or perhaps just to chit-chat. Sometimes she's only just the age of my teenager and is eager to hear all about her life style or to listen to her radio.

I lend an ear and try to understand, even though I may have paperwork or telephoning to do or may not be in a communicative mood that day. Often I am emotionally exhausted at the end of cleaning day. I don't think I am underpaying.

Like you I am concerned about the plight of today's prisoners. Unlike you I'd like to wait and give the new Superintendent the chance that I feel she deserves.

Sincerely yours

Mrs. Charlotte Lebowitz
Natick, Mass.

an inmate responds...

Ms. Lebowitz,

My name is Joan Sarno and I am presently incarcerated at MCI Fram. I have just finished reading your open letter to Brass Tacks concerning the Community Work Release Program, and more specifically Day Work. Let me set you straight on a few matters. I found your letter patronizing, insulting and full of gross misrepresentation of the facts. Your "understanding that there is a training program for waitressing" is a misunderstanding. The "training" is in the fact that if a woman has been approved for Work Release, she is 21 and there is an opening of one of the two jobs at the Holiday Inn, she will be trained. As it is, that is the only self-satisfying job available. Did it ever occur to you that there may be a great many women here who need financial support that the Program provides and they are willing to work under humiliating circumstances? The three factories affiliated with MCI have admitted that the Labor provided by the Institution is cheap labor and the management need never raise their wages because there are always women available to be sent out to work. The profit accumulated from the MCI woman, during the course of a year, is staggering.

You speak of "intellectual capabilities." The prisoners of today are far more intelligent and aware than those in Dr. Van Waters' time. Dr. Van Waters may well

have wanted women to feel "trained and rehabilitated" but there isn't any feeling of rehabilitation working at a job, or doing domestic work knowing that you are earning half as much as the other employees doing the same job because you are a prisoner. We are being degraded and underestimated and misjudged and forced to work at boring and stultifying jobs due to our financial needs.

Your patronizing attitude regarding the women who have come to your home is insulting to any woman. If you are so "emotionally exhausted" at the end of the day why continue employing MCI women? You can very well hire a professional cleaning woman for twice as much money and little or no stress will be upon you. You are "responsible" for the woman who comes to your home only for the transportation and safety of the woman involved. Mrs. Lebowitz if a woman wanted to leave your home or this institution badly enough do you really believe you are capable of stopping her? You are "expected" to provide a dinner, but is that such a chore? If you possess human emotions and thinking then you would provide said dinner for any person in your home at lunch time.

Mrs. Lebowitz people need people to communicate with and just to talk to. It is true that the women need understanding but not your kind of tolerance and underestimation.

The Community Work Release Program is basically a sound one but the opportunities are limited. There is a lot of room for improvement and affiliations with a variety of occupations. It isn't enough for any person, man or woman, free or incarcerated, to be treated inferior. Your letter and statement is proof of the condescending attitude that the Community has towards the men and women in prison. The bars, fences, locks and gates are poor excuses for people in the Community and especially you, to express their own fears and insecurities.

There are women here who do not know how to do housework or don't like it, women who may drink your liquor or steal your money but those same things could also happen if you had a cleaning woman come to your home.

In conclusion Mrs. Lebowitz. I suggest you really examine your own reasons for employing the women here and if they are as they appear to be, discontinue it because in reality you are not benefiting anyone.

There are day work women who sincerely empathize with the women here and I'm sure you'll find them far more satisfied than yourself. This is an old cliché but it states perfectly what I have to say. You only get out of something as much as you put into it.

Sincerely yours,
Joan Sarno

with misquoting Deschesnes and distorting the information I had found on employment at Honeywell. Honeywell, I was told, had a very highly regarded Affirmative Action Program for minority employment. Seems it's required if a company has government defense contracts.

But more appalling, disgusting and traitorous than all that--I had embarrassed the Board of Directors of the Community Center. The Community Center (pri-

vately supported and since its beginning 3 years ago, a pet of the local business community) is currently involved in a fund drive. The Board had previously regarded the newspaper as an asset to their fund-raising activities. It was concrete, visible, it had just the right amount of radical chic--that is, until the March issue.

Rev. Gaines, a member with Jack Forbes (Fenwal) and Fran

continued on page 16

paid political ad

Vote Socialist Workers in '72

Vote for JENNESS & PULLEY

FOURTEEN POINT PROGRAM OF THE SWP

1. Immediate withdrawal from Southeast Asia.
2. Hands off Bangla Desh.
3. Black and Puerto Rican control of the Black and Puerto Rican communities.
4. Free abortion on demand.
5. Build independent Black and Puerto Rican political parties.
6. 24-hour community-controlled child care centers.
7. Equal pay for equal work.
8. Repeal all anti-gay laws.
9. 100% tax on industries which pollute.
10. Democratic rights for high school students.
11. Repeal the 2/3 law. Democratic rights for prisoners.
12. 30 hour's work for 40 hour's pay. Escalator clauses in all contracts.
13. Call a Congress of Labor to demand repeal of the wage freeze.
14. Build an independent labor party.

For more info. call 235-9207.

Comunidad unida...

continued from page 1

Some Board members felt it would be a good general policy of the news paper to show all articles to the persons concerned before publication. Bullshit!

More bullshit--I was charged

For several weeks you've been having trouble sleeping. One day you notice that your hair is falling out.

(CPS) In late February, 16 workers at a lamp factory in Lynn, Massachusetts walked off their jobs when they discovered they were being exposed to potentially dangerous amounts of mercury on the job. Workers at the plant have made the company change some of its practices and have started a campaign to get the shop cleaned up properly.

The unsafe lamp plant belongs to the International Telephone and Telegraph Company--the same ITT which donated \$400,000 for the 1972 Republican Convention in an apparent deal to settle a government antitrust suit. The same ITT which has charged with conspiring with the CIA to prevent the election and establishment of the socialist government in Chile.

Both ITT and the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Hygiene have known for several years that urine tests on many workers in the plant's fluorescent department show illegally high levels of mercury. During this time, neither the union (Teamsters Local 42) nor the employees were informed.

Wherever mercury liquid is present, unenclosed, at room temperature, it releases harmful mercury vapor into the air. The more mercury in any form enters the body, the

greater the chances that it is doing harm. People who suffer from mercury poisoning often have shaky hands, arms, or legs. They can have trouble sleeping at night, lose weight, and have mental problems. Mercury damage to the mind and kidney cannot be cured by any known treatment.

In May, 1971, after the union ran its own tests, the company made two concessions. It installed new ventilation, but without the aid of industrial hygienists trained to reduce the danger. It agreed to give out test results on request, but with no explanation. Workers were told, "Your mercury count is 0.051 or '0.25' or 'not high'."

In early February of this year, one woman in the fluorescent department was told she would be transferred to another job--no reason given, as usual. This woman had been seeing a doctor for the past two weeks because her hair had been falling out and she had difficulty sleeping. The company had also asked her for two urine samples in quick succession.

She suspected she had been switched because she had picked up a dangerous amount of mercury. The suspicion spread. Sixteen women had private tests done. As they suspected, some of them had mer-

cury in their system above the maximum safe level declared by the state.

When confronted, the company nurse and personnel director claimed there was no real danger, and at any rate working conditions were as good as they could make them.

The women felt their health was more important than any job, and refused to work until something was done. Over a dozen women stayed out for two weeks without pay or other compensation; a few stayed out longer.

While the women were striking, the latest state test results revealed that out of a sample of workers in the fluorescent area, fourteen had more than .15 milligrams of mercury per liter of urine (the maximum safe amount), and five had more than .50 mg.

As a result of the walkout, the union negotiated another agreement with ITT, providing mercury tests at any time on demand, and an automatic transfer to a safer job for anyone with a mercury count above .15 mg. The women who walked out were not punished, and did not have to return to work until their mercury count dropped below .15 mg. However, they did not get back their lost pay.

The union is trying to get these women workmen's compensation,

just as for a worker who loses pay due to an injury. This would be an important precedent for all workers in potentially disease-producing jobs, but chances of victory are slim. victory are slim.

A group of union stewards and workers from the fluorescent shop (both the ones who walked out and others who did not) have begun a campaign to force the company to fix things up so no one gets too much mercury. They know it can be done--other workers in the same local working in a Sylvania lamp plant have had no problem from mercury since Sylvania cleaned up their shop some years ago.

This group has demanded cleaning up the shop, more frequent tests with public results, break time for employees to wash up and eat outside the mercury area, and a company policy of informing new employees about the mercury danger. They also plan to get more information themselves about mercury dangers, and to get test results directly from the state, not through the company.

So far they have won a partial victory. ITT has agreed to hire occupational health experts from MIT to advise them on the mercury problem. Whether ITT will spend money to clean up as well as get advice, remains to be seen.

After 8 hours of the constant noise it takes a while before you can hear normally again. After a year or two working 8 hours a day in the constant roar you begin to go deaf.

by John Rees

At the General Electric plant in Ashland the Automatic Screw Machine shop (where the tiny gears that go into GE timers and clocks are made) is notorious for its poor working conditions. For years oil mist in the air was so thick that you couldn't see two aisles away. The 1966 strike by the United Electrical Workers had as one demand the installation of adequate ventilation equipment. The company had said before the strike that it would be prohibitively expensive to install the equipment, but the strike forced them to find the money and the oil mist problem was improved somewhat.

The sound level in the ASM shop is well over 90 decibels. Medical studies have shown that 10% of people exposed to a noise level of 90 decibels (the legal limit for continuous exposure) will

suffer permanent hearing damage. Ninety decibels is equivalent to pushing a loud power-lawn mower. High sound levels also cause tension and fatigue and have been linked to increased heart disease.

About 2 years ago people in the shop filed complaints with their shop stewards and UE local 205 at Ashland began to pressure GE to do something about the high sound level. GE denied that the noise level was a problem and gave the same answer it had in 1966--it would cost too much to do anything about it.

The union continued to pressure the company for action. There were several obvious changes which could have been introduced to lower the noise level: replacing some metal gears with quieter nylon gears, sound insulation around gearboxes, and baffles between machines to absorb and deflect the sound.

going deaf at GE

After 1 1/2 years the company offered its solution: earmuffs. Not only were the earmuffs uncomfortable and inconvenient, but they were also inadequate sound barriers. In order to be effective they require an airtight seal; the safety glasses which must be worn at all times in the shop break the seal and make the earmuffs almost useless.

The people working at GE kept the pressure on. Workers on the shop floor continued to complain to supervisors and the union continued to pressure the management. Finally, 3 or 4 months ago, the company 'recognized' the seriousness of the problem. The union brought in outside technical assistance which documented the extent of the excessive noise level. GE has since agreed to provide ear-fitted earplugs and to take other measures to reduce the overall noise level.

There are still many problems at GE Ashland, but at least one has been solved. With persistence and the active support of the membership the United Electrical Workers were able to protect the hearing of the people in the ASM shop. Not all workers are that lucky.

(CPS) From the Wall Street Journal, March 14: "Worried about the high noise levels at its Elkhart, Ind. plant, Schott Industries, Inc. hit upon a novel solution. It hires only deaf people to work in the noisiest part of the plant. A year after beginning the experiment, six deaf men are still holding down jobs that previously distressed workers with normal hearing."

Workers who are now going deaf in noisy plants can rest assured that these special jobs await them in the future.

unite for safe working conditions

by John Rees

Unsafe or unhealthy working conditions are not uncommon in America. The two situations described above happened to dozens of workers in Massachusetts in the last few years. Many thousands of other workers in Massachusetts continue to work under unhealthy conditions. What is unusual in both the above cases is that the workers were able to force their employers to improve the unhealthy working conditions.

The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 is designed to help workers by providing safety regulations which are much tougher and fines which are stiffer than those in the state laws. Though the law is a step in the right direction, the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration - which enforces the law) can not track down the major-

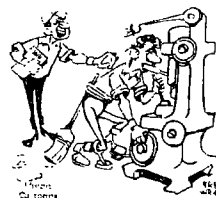
ity of violations because it is inadequately staffed. Six inspectors must cover all of Eastern Massachusetts.

Given the nature of law enforcement in the United States, it is doubtful that even a strong law will do much to improve working conditions. For example: Strict laws regulate mining practices, but the corrupt United Mine Workers looks the other way while the laws are ignored. The recurring mining disasters, like the one in Kellogg, Idaho, are the results.

Workers have long had their lives shortened by unsafe and unhealthy working conditions. Only by coming together in unions responsive to their needs can working people have even a chance of facing down the large corporations and forcing them to comply with even the existing inadequate safety laws.

Without their unions the people

at GE Ashland and ITT Lynn would have had no place to turn. Many workers are still either without union protection or belong to bureaucratic unions which do not respond to their members' needs. A worker without union protection has to depend on the benevolence of the owners of his/her plant for safe, healthy working conditions. (Not to mention pay, fair treatment, or any other working conditions.) Since the owners of the



"Pardon me, but you seem to have that unorganized look..."

businesses in this country are primarily interested in making money, the safety of their employees is of little concern. If cutting corners, speedup, or improper equipment can save money, then an unprotected working person had better expect to suffer.

The only long range way to change this situation will be to change the reasons why people have to work. If people worked to satisfy human needs instead of to make a profit for the owners of the means of production, then unsafe working conditions would be unthinkable. It would then be just as important that people have a safe, healthy, satisfying job as it would be for them to have a good place to live, good food to eat, and time to do the things they enjoy. As long as corporate power forces the society to meet corporate needs, the needs of the people will not be met.

by Maria DeFelice

Women have long been the forgotten third of the labor force. Always the last hired, first fired, women's condition is degenerating. While more women than ever before are now working, they are in an increasingly worse position. The gap between women's wages and men's is increasing despite the passage of the 1963 Equal Pay Law and the 1964 Civil Rights Law which forbids discrimination on the basis of religion, color, race or sex. According to the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Dept. of Labor in 1955 women's wage rate was 64% of men's, while in 1970 they received less than 50% of the men men's.

Women are paid less than men for the same work. For example, men who are class A accounting clerks earn from \$6.50 to \$42.50 a week more than women holding the same jobs. Female scientists in 1970 earned from \$1,700 to \$5,100 a year less than men in the same fields. Some equality.

Like Black men, women with four years of college earn no more than white men with eighth grade educations. The unemployment rate for women is double that of men. This does not include housewives or women returning to work after a period of absence from the work force.

In 1966 only 1/7 of female workers, while 1/4 of male workers, were in unions. Less than 1/5 of union members are female.

HOW ARE WOMEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST?

Many excuses have been given by businessmen as to why they either refuse to hire women or pay them less than men. They claim that women are sick more often than men and are therefore more absent from work. The fact is that women are absent no more than men are. A recent study showed that women are out, due to illness or injury, 5.9 days while men are absent 5.2 days per year. In 1968 a Public Health Survey revealed that women lost only 5.3 days while men lost 5.4 days.

Another popular excuse is that women don't stay at the same job as long as men do. Studies have shown that the nature of the job, not the sex of the employee, determines the turnover rate. In many areas, e.g. engineering, men change jobs frequently because they are constantly looking for advancement. Most women do not continuously change jobs in search for better pay or position and are generally more loyal--admittedly to their own detriment. Another reason women get paid less is that managing a home, child-rearing and housework is not considered work experience. Most women returning to work after raising a family must start at the bottom of the pay scale.

WHAT KIND OF WORK DO WOMEN DO?



Hard Times/CPS

Facts About Women Workers

In 1969 one third of all women workers held clerical positions; three fourths of all clerical positions were held by women. 98% of the clerk typists were women, while only 8.5% of the law students were women. More than half the workers in service jobs (waitresses, cooks, practical nurses, etc.) and almost all household workers were women. These are low-paying, non-unionized jobs that are not even covered by the minimum wage laws.

Female professional and technical workers hold low-paying, low-status jobs like teaching, and the percentage of women on even these jobs is decreasing steadily.

Housework, which is the primary concern of most working and non-working women, is largely unpaid labor. According to the Chase Manhattan Bank the average housewife and mother works 99 hours per week. 99 hours of work in exchange for room and board, and maybe an allowance, depend-



ing on hubby's generosity. There are no innate biological or psychological reasons for discrimination. Few women are engineers but studies show that 2/3 as many girls as boys have an aptitude for this type of work.

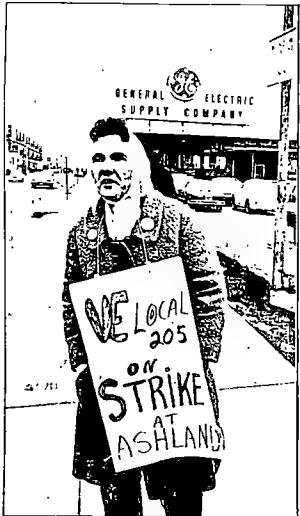
"NON-WHITE" WOMEN FACE DOUBLE OPPRESSION

"Non-whites" (defined by the government as Blacks, Orientals, American Indians) are oppressed both as females and as members of minority groups. In 1968 half the "non-whites" were service workers and only one third the "non-whites" were white collar workers, while less than one fifth of the whites were in service work and almost two thirds in white coll-

ar jobs.

WHY DO WOMEN WORK?

One of the most common myths about women workers is that they



work only to obtain 'pin money'. Most women who work must work. In 1967 5.2 million families (10% of the total) were headed by women (no husbands present). Over 30% of Boston families have women as heads of households. More than half of these women worked. 75% of all married female workers have husbands who earn less than \$7,000 annually; the majority of them make less than \$5,000. This is well below the poverty level. 40% of female workers are single, widowed, divorced or separated.

Another common myth about women is that women take jobs away from men (this accusation assumes that only men deserve jobs). In 1970 there were 31.5 million women workers and only 2.2 million unemployed men. Even if the men were capable of filling those jobs there would still be 29.3 job openings. In any case, women and men shouldn't fight each other for jobs, but should get together to fight for full employment for all who want it.

WHY ARE WOMEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST?

Even though women constitute 38% of the labor force the first responsibility of women has been defined by society as that of reproduction and child-rearing. Individual women, not society, are solely responsible for the raising of children. Because of this emphasis women have generally accepted low-status jobs for low wages. Work done outside the home is considered secondary,

and therefore of lesser importance. Business saves billions of dollars each year by paying women lower wages than men.

Women also serve as a reserve labor force, a kind of safety valve for the capitalist system. During World War II, for example, women were encouraged to fill the positions left by men who became soldiers. The government even set up day care centers for children of working mothers. Women proved just as capable at these jobs as men had. But when the men returned at the end of the war there weren't enough jobs for everybody so the day care centers were closed and the women sent home to have babies. Instead of careers, women's magazines started pushing the joys of domesticity, motherhood and consumerism. If women and men considered work done inside and outside the home to be of equal importance to both sexes, this could not happen.

SOLUTIONS

While women are discriminated against, men are not free. The struggle for women's liberation must take place on many levels. Even if women were to gain equal rights with men under capitalism, it would only mean equal unfreedom. Both women and men are trapped by a system that places property rights above human rights, profits above human needs. Only when all the people gain control over the means of production and distribution under a form of democratic socialism can women and men be truly liberated. Until that happens there are many reforms workers can fight for and gain. We demand:

- * Paid maternity leave for women and men with no loss of seniority.
- * Equal job and educational opportunities with an end to sex-role tracking.
- * Equal pay for equal work.
- * Free 24-hour community-controlled child care.
- * An end to discrimination in hiring and promotions.
- * Free contraception and abortion on demand for all as we must control our bodies if we are to control any other aspect of our lives.

STEARNS ORGANIC FARM
NATURAL FRUITS
and VEGETABLES
WHOLE FOODS
859
EDMUNDS ROAD
FRAMINGHAM

"The women worked in the mills for lower pay and in addition had all the housework and care of the children. At the end of the day's work--or now, of strike duty--the men went home and sat at ease while his wife did all the work preparing the meal, cleaning the house, etc. There was considerable male opposition to women going to meetings and marching in the picket line. We resolutely set out to combat this. We had special meetings for the women at which Baywood and I spoke... The women were strikers as well as wives and were valiant fighters."
--Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, 21-year-old organizer for IWW in Lawrence strike, 1912.

UNITED PEOPLES IS AN ORGANIZATION OF LOW-INCOME PEOPLE AND WELFARE RECIPIENTS WORKING TOGETHER IN WELFARE ADVOCACY, HEALTH, EDUCATION, SURPLUS FOODS, TRANSPORTATION AND ALL FACETS OF HOUSING.

u.p. TEACHES PREJUDICE WORKSHOP

United Peoples representatives recently participated as paid instructors in "Prejudice and the Schools," an inservice workshop for Framingham public school teachers.

Sponsored by the Lincoln Filene Center for Citizenship and Public Affairs of Tufts University, the workshop also brought before the Framingham teachers Dean Norman Rosenblatt of the College of Criminal Justice of Northeastern University.

Discrimination the topic

They specifically dealt with minorities and legal and social discrimination.

The purpose of the workshop, part of a 12-week course, is to develop among teachers an awareness of the problems of minority groups in the Framingham area. United Peoples participated in the hope that these teachers will develop and use curriculum materials and activities that will promote positive self-concept in minority students, and that will help non-minority children to get in touch with their own intolerance.

Howard Cohen, attorney for United Peoples, opened with an extensive review of how the law discriminates against the poor as a minority group.

Nancy McDonald of Wayland, the chairwoman of United Peoples, demonstrated how the welfare department goes about setting up a monthly budget allowance. She selected the family situation of one of the teacher-participants as an example. Ms. McDonald exposed the rationale for the stipulations for various allowances, and related the many problems and frustrations recipients face whenever they have to confront the local welfare bureaucracy.

"Some Welfare Laws are Sane"

"Actually," Charlie Deutsch of UP told the teachers, "some of the welfare laws are sane in that they take into account real things. An example of this would be allowing a welfare mother, whose child wishes to continue beyond high school, to work and retain all the money she earns. The child must be a junior or senior in high school.

"This is a good law," Deutsch concluded, "but probably there aren't four cases such as this in Framingham, because the welfare department doesn't actively en-



Sam Swisher, Charlie Deutsch, Howard Cohen, Nancy McDonald, and Thelma Klein.



36 Concord St. Framingham
872-4853

courage this or even make it known."

Thelma Klein, an organizer in UP, stated: "Even with those few laws that are fair, the system falls short in administering them --and the people subsequently are discriminated against."

Bureaucrats and Minorities

Sam Swisher, member of UP, told of his extensive testing for lead paint in homes--a condition that can cause lead paint poisoning particularly among the poor. He emphasized that it is an uphill battle with politicians to get any establishment help in the struggle.

Dean Rosenblatt emphasized to the teachers that "Attitudes on the part of law enforcement officials, as well as those of judges in the courts, often adversely affect the administration of justice toward minority groups."

Rosenblatt stressed the need to develop awareness of this situation as a functional problem and one to which teachers should address themselves when dealing with their own or their students' attitudes.

Asked what she thought of the "Prejudice and the Schools"

news

workshop so far, Patricia West, teacher at the Walsh Middle School, said: "It's great. As a matter of fact, I think it should be required for all the teachers in Framingham."

WELFARE HEARING AT STATE HOUSE

Representatives of United Peoples attended a Public Hearing on the Mass. Welfare Department's new hardship regulations at the State House, April 26.

Moving Expenses

Guidelines proposed for the regulation of payment of moving expenses appear to require near-disaster before the department will assist a recipient family to move to better housing. Provision 2, which requires the local Board of Health or Housing Inspection Department to certify that a family is living in sub-standard housing, is completely unrealistic. It requires recipients to appeal to one more hostile bureaucracy in order to improve their situation. Does the Welfare Department really want to give decisive power, in small towns and cities, to elected or appointed officials who may have no sympathy for recipients? Some local officials would approve payments only if a recipient were moving out of town. This provision is just not helpful. If a recipient is able to move from a sub-standard to a standard apartment, that is sufficient justification for Departmental assistance with moving expenses. Anything less does more to create hardship than to ease it.

Furniture and Household Effects

To replace provisions for furniture and household equipment with regulations for washing machine repair avoids the real issue. There are many occasions when the purchase of furniture is a critical necessity. Often, recipients who have been living in sub-standard or overcrowded housing find an opportunity to move to larger quarters. If a mother with six children has moved from a two-bedroom to a four-bedroom apartment, she needs furniture badly. The exclusion of any assistance with furniture needs forces recipients

to enter purchase agreements with unscrupulous dealers. Frequently such dealers charge overwhelming interest for shoddy merchandise. The new hardship guidelines thus create another hardship.

Shelter Arrears

Everyone knows that the welfare budget does not provide enough money for families to find stand ard housing. The proposed provision for shelter arrears forces recipients to the point of desperation before the Department will give emergency assistance.

Fuel and Utility Arrears

Again, the Department budget does not allow enough money for fuel and utility payments. How can the Department be party to budget arrangements with a utility company that requires a monthly payment of, for example, \$40, when the Department budget for utilities is less than half of that? And how can the Department allow a family's heat and lights to be cut off in mid-winter, simply because the Department assisted with a utility arrearage 18 months earlier? Once again, the hardship guidelines create hardship.

Initial Needs

The First Thirty Days

Provision has been the one thing that has enabled many welfare recipients to survive under the Flat Grant system. To eliminate the provisions of the First Thirty Days is to make the Flat Grant system totally unworkable.

WELFARE TO THE RICH

The news media and politicians give a lot of attention to the high cost of "public welfare programs." However, they never point out that the most expensive government payments aren't made to "welfare recipients", but to giant corporations and to millionaires.

For instance, while the poor are losing their special needs grants, the super-rich have and continue to receive them.

Every year, some \$4 billion in cash grants is given to farmers. Although thousands of small farmers sell out every year because they can't break even, almost all of these subsidies (welfare) go to huge farming companies.

One of these "welfare" farmers is Senator James Eastland of Mississippi--third ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. He gets a yearly payment of \$130,000.

Oil companies get two kinds of welfare. They get a special super-tax-welfare, by which they pay lower tax rates than individuals in the lowest tax brackets. And the government helps them to take money directly out of people's pockets by import regulations designed to keep prices high.

In 1970, Gulf paid a total of 1.2% of its profits in taxes; Atlantic paid 4.1%, Standard Oil of Calif. paid 5% and Standard Oil of Ohio, with a net income of \$66 million, paid no federal taxes at all, but instead received a 10% credit which it can apply to future bills.

These are only two of the innumerable examples of welfare to the rich and super-rich. But, one must remember it is always call-subsidies with the rich.

Congress passes these programs year after year, gathering up the wealth of the country and redistributing it among the upper classes. Meanwhile they further reduce aid to the truly needy.

UNITED PEOPLES

See The New, All-Purpose

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875-4741

We participate in the
MEDICAID PROGRAM

BEAVER STREET
TENANTS
VS.
HOSTILE BOARD

The tenants of the Beaver Street Housing Project witnessed the Framingham Housing Authority Board "in action", Tuesday, April 18th.

Several tenants went to the meeting to discuss their concerns and to suggest some changes in the management of the project. We went with good intentions, approaching the housing authority on a friendly basis. A few of the members received us rudely and with inconsiderate, caustic remarks. We were further insulted by their refusal to take us seriously.

The board is made up of four elected public officials and one Governor's appointee. Mr. O'Grady, an elected official and Mr. Murphy, the appointed one, are not deserving of their positions. It would be a revelation for people to see the attitude these men have toward the tenants. In their attitude, they appear to consider us ignorant and look down on us -- merely because we are low-income. They feel they are doing us a great service just by letting us live in the project. Some of them seem oblivious to the fact that, it is because of us, that they have their positions.

Now, get this--they advised us to consider the project as our own homes and then, told us the "management" was their concern! If we are to think of the project as our homes, then, the management is of great concern to us as well as the physical appearance.

Sometimes, some of the members appear fair and willing to listen. At these times, it's unfortunate that their efforts are hindered by a few. We don't expect to agree on everything, but, we do expect our suggestions to be taken seriously and considered carefully.

Maybe, the board is unaware of the way Mr. Canning operates. "Little Caesar" uses fear tactics to make any tenants who stand up to him, to submit.

The board denies this fear, but, when the tenants are approached, the majority of them expressed fear of reprisal from Canning. They approved of the Tenants Council, but, didn't want to take an active part because of their fears.

Does the board really know of Canning's actions behind their backs--sometimes against a direct decision concerning specific matters?

The tenants intend to continue their efforts to improve the project. We realize we have some advantages over some other housing projects, however, there is much room for improvement.

Marjorie Dickenson
Beaver Street
Tenants Council

DAY CARE
TRAINING PROGRAM

For women who are interested in caring for children in their own homes--eight sessions, 2 1/2 hours per session. Training will include basic development, creative play, etc. Participants receive license at end of program.

Contact Jane Lovett, Catholic Charitable Bureau, 35 Lincoln St., Framingham. 879-4890

alcohol rehab center

At the April 10th SMOC Board Meeting, John DeLorey, Director of the Alcoholism Program gave a fascinating and detailed description of the center. He told us the program began in September, 71 and the case load had already reached 121 and increases every week. In fact, one day since April 10th, John told me 10 new persons were admitted into the program in one day. John and his assistant, Ernie Simpson, have had invaluable and thorough training at Rutgers University.

The Center, with the assistance of AA Volunteers, is now open seven days a week. He described the detoxification program, drop-in center and AA group meetings,

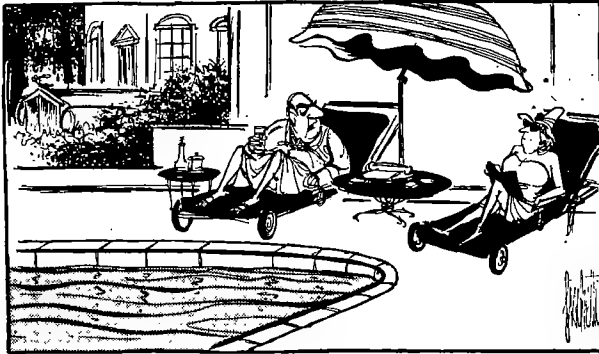
which are held every Friday evening at 8:30 at St. Stevens Church.

These meetings began with 12 to 14 people and is now up to 70 to 75 each week.

The "course" that has been taught at Marian High School is now beginning at Framingham south and Natick.

John and his staff are asking for refunding through the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse for continuation of the Center in Framingham, and the beginning of one in Marlboro. They are also working with hospitals to free more beds and working towards a half-way house.

Nancy McDonald



"Of course I think of the poor! Didn't I write to our senator demanding he get them off our backs?"

u.p. testifies

The following testimony was given by United Peoples at the hearing:

"Gentlemen:

At the General Relief Hearings, right here, several months ago, we heard testimony against the cut-backs. In vain--we gave testimony.

An hour ago, a woman in desperate need, on general relief, testified she had no money to move her furniture, therefore; no beds for her children and her self to sleep in. They all slept on the floor. Now, you want to do the same thing to AFDC Mothers.

Under the new proposals, if a mother finds a better apartment, healthwise or a cheaper one, the welfare department will not pay for moving expenses. So--she'll just have to continue using a large part of her children's food money to pay for shelter.

Under the new proposals a moth-

er may not even get a bed or mattress to replace broken ones.

Will they really have to sleep on the floor?

Are poor children really so unimportant?

Are they really so ---NOTHING?

Also, under the new proposals, you will dispense with initial needs.

In the group we work with, United Peoples of Framingham, we find most people so desperate by the time they apply for welfare, that they have nothing.

A family has often broken up and money is owed on furniture--the furniture may be confiscated--the husband may have needed some--or it may have been sold for food money or legal fees.

And--YOU would take away this much."

Nancy McDonald,
Chairwoman, U.P.

Adele MacDonald,
Treasurer, U.P.



"Do you want a wage increase or would you rather be a patriotic American?"

SOUNDS FAMILIAR...

The Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (covering Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota) has just applied for a 12 percent rate increase. And they sure need it. The Northwestern division of Bell only cleared a measly \$78.7 million in 1971!!

lead
paint
testing

United Peoples has been testing the interior paint in the Greater Framingham area for the past several weeks. So far, 73% of the units tested have been positive--they have lead paint. All the units tested house children between the ages of one and six.

A window sill or railing at mouth height that can be chewed is a frequent source of lead, even when the paint is not peeling. Lead paint for use on children's toys, furniture and indoor use in houses is outlawed, but, most old houses have one or more coats of lead paint inside them someplace. It is also these old houses where paint frequently falls off in large pieces.

If a child eats a paint chip containing a thick coat or two thin coats of 0.5 percent lead paint bigger than a square centimeter he has exceeded the maximal permissible daily intake. Of course, if the chip contained 5 - 10 - or 20 percent lead, which is not uncommon, the chip could be far smaller. For instance, for paint containing 10 percent lead, the chip could be this size.

This amount consumed each day for about three months could cause death.

If a child with lead poisoning is not diagnosed and treated until he has obvious symptoms, and if he survives, he will have approximately, a one in three chance of having permanent brain damage. Two such attacks practically assures him of permanent brain damage.

United Peoples has been testing with a 7% strength sodium sulfide solution. It is applied directly to the paint chip and is capable of determining presence of lead content per dry weight, from 0.6% to 4%, depending on color.

Testing has been carried out on a systematic basis, taking samples from all painted surfaces under four feet.

Framingham Health Inspector, John Sullivan, has agreed to accept chips gathered by U.P. for forwarding to the Food and Drug Administration Labs, in Boston.

This is an important recognition of United Peoples role as a community group.

People with young children, particularly those living in older homes, may call U.P. (872-4853) to have their paint tested. There is no charge.

Sam Swisher
United Peoples

ALCOHOL...

IS IT AFFECTING YOU? YOUR HOME?

879-6321

Call or visit ALCOHOL REHAB CENTER

31 Hollis Street, Framingham, Mass.

WKDYS
9-5 7-10

WKENDS
9-5

How to Get on UNEMPLOYMENT

(CPS) Unemployment in Massachusetts is bad and getting worse. In most cities, more workers are getting laid off every week, and in some cities whole plants are closing up shop. It's difficult and often impossible to find a decent and good paying job. For these reasons alone, unemployed workers should have all the facts about the benefits to which they are entitled to under the Employment Security Act.

The unemployment benefit system is completely inadequate--the benefits are less than half of what they should be; no benefits should run out as long as there is a shortage of jobs; and strikers, farm-workers, domestics, students, and others should be eligible for benefits. All workers need to unite to force the unemployment system to provide an adequate income, and one of the things we need to do first is make sure that those of us that are unemployed now are getting everything that we are entitled to.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Most workers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, whether residents or not, are eligible. If you are a Massachusetts resident working out of state, you are still eligible. State and Federal employees are eligible. But those who work seasonal farm labor and those who do domestic work are excluded by the Mass. Employment Security Act.

In order to be eligible to file a claim for unemployment benefits, a worker must first, be out of work or only be working part time, and second, have earned at least \$900 (gross) in the 52 weeks prior to the week in which he or she files a claim.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE BENEFITS?

From the day you first apply for benefits until your last week of benefits, you are required to accept full and suitable employment if it is offered to you. But, under certain circumstances you have the right to refuse a job that is offered to you. For example, you may refuse a job which is below your skill level, at a wage substantially lower than you previously earned, or which will create undue hardship--such as travelling a long distance to and from work.

If the Division of Employment Security can prove in an "impartial" hearing that you were fired from your job because of misconduct, you are required to serve a 4 to 10 week waiting period before you begin to receive your benefits. Also if DES can prove in an "impartial" hearing that you quit your job without good reason (i.e. medical, discrimination, etc.) you are required to serve a ten week penalty period before receiving benefits.

HOW DO YOU FILE FOR BENEFITS?

You should apply for benefits at the DES office nearest your home or your place of work. Apply at your regular reporting time, which (for any office in Massachusetts) can be determined by checking the last figure of your social security number against the following schedule:

IF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ENDS IN	YOUR REPORTING TIME IS
0	Monday Morning
1	Monday Afternoon
2	Tuesday Morning
3	Tuesday Afternoon
4	Wednesday Morning
5	Wednesday Afternoon
6	Thursday Morning
7	Thursday Afternoon
8	Friday Morning
9	Friday Afternoon

When you go to file your claim, bring with you your separation notice from your last employer, your social security card, a DES identification card (if you have one), and a list of names and addresses of all employers you had worked for in the in the previous 52 weeks. After you file, there is a one week waiting period without benefits, which means that your first weekly benefits should come two weeks from the day you claim.

When you first file, or perhaps in one of the next two weeks, you will be interviewed to see if you are actively seeking work on your own. There is no legal standard for what is accepted as proof--standards vary from office to office and interviewer to interviewer. Sometimes it is enough to tell where you have inquired about work; but you might be required to submit copies of applications you have filed, even if you have been told by these companies that no jobs are available.

HOW MANY WEEKS CAN YOU RECEIVE BENEFITS?

To find the total number of weeks you can receive benefits, you must first figure out the total amount of benefits to which you're entitled, that is, your total benefit credit. Your total benefit credit is the lesser of these two formulas: either 1) 36% of your total gross wages earned in your base period or 2) 30 times your weekly benefit rate. Now, simply take your total benefit credit and divide by your weekly rate in order to find out how many weeks you can receive benefits.

In addition, as long as the state unemployment rate remains high (as defined by DES), you can receive Extended Benefits and Emergency Benefits. Extended and Emergency benefits together equal the same number of weeks of your regular benefits. So if you're eligible for 26 weeks of regular benefits, then you're also eligible for 13 weeks of Extended Benefits and 13 more weeks of Emergency Benefits.

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL?

You have the right to appeal any decision which you feel is unfair. Request for a fair hearing should be filed with DES within 5 days of any decision which you are going to appeal. Appeals first go to the Division within DES. You can always appeal any decision of the Division to the Board of Review.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Get the benefits that you have coming to you. Organize for the guaranteed right of everyone to have a decent job and an adequate income.

Local Division of Employment Security Claims Offices

206 Howard St., Framingham
186 Main St., Marlboro
14 Spring St., Waltham

abortion demo

On Saturday, May 6, 500 women and men rallied on Boston Common in front of the State House in the first demonstration of its kind ever to be held in Boston. It was sponsored by the Boston Women's Abortion Action Coalition as part of a national demonstration to demand the repeal of all abortion and contraception laws, and an end to forced sterilization.

The demonstration started at Copley Square and marched to the Common. The march and rally were spirited, with lots of chanting ("Not the Church, not the State, women will decide our fate"; "our bodies, our lives, our right to decide") and singing songs written by the New Haven Women's Liberation Rock Band.

Speakers included Barbara Roberts, National Project Director and founder of the Women's National Abortion Action Coalition; playwright Myrna Lamb, author of "Mod Donna" and "Cyklon Z"; Jeanne Lafferty, Socialist Workers Party candidate for the 9th Congressional district.

While any time women march in the street is a celebration, the speakers showed that we meant business. They attacked the male-dominated Church and legislature for depriving women of their right to control their own bodies, and accused them of condemning thousands of women to death annually with reactionary laws. "If men could get pregnant, abortion would be a sacrament."

This demonstration was just the first. The struggle for the right of women to control their own bodies is taking place in the legislature, the courts and in the streets. In the Natick-Framingham area the battle is being waged by the West Suburban Women's Abortion Coalition. To participate, call Mary Rees at 653-8560.

ABORTION IS A WOMAN'S
RIGHT TO CHOOSE!

UNDERSTANDING OVERTIME

(CPS) Today, for all practical purposes, the eight-hour day exists only on paper. In the manufacturing industries the vast majority of contracts include clauses which force workers to put in overtime hours at the discretion of management.

From the point of view of the company, overtime is a financial boon. At first glance, with time-and-a-half, it appears that the company is losing money on overtime work. But the key here is that the company pays no fringe benefits on overtime hours. If pay is \$4 an hour, with \$1.50 in fringes, the actual straight time pay is about \$5.50 an hour. During overtime hours, with time-and-a-half, the rate is \$6 an hour, but their are no fringes, so that the company is actually paying only 50¢ an hour more.

The second part of the overtime bargain for the company comes with the reduced overhead. Most expenses of running a plant are not related to production, but to days the plant is running. Heating, lighting, insurance, interest on loans for capital, land and building taxes, plant cleaning and maintenance, office work and costs, all these are functions of daily use, and for the most part are unrelated to whether the plant is run 8, 16 or 20 hours a day. Thus, when the plant is operating extra hours in a



day, production and therefore profit rises, while overhead remains constant.

In addition to straight overhead, the costs of start-up times, lunch breaks, and the like also remain constant, while extra hours per day maximizes use of equipment and machinery.

The contract clauses governing overtime should be rewritten to give each worker the right to refuse overtime. With unemployment as it is, it's immoral to demand of us work that we don't want and don't need. Our free hours are just that: ours. (excerpted from Soft Drink Workers News, 3/72)

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WORK in america: a primer

by Gerry Ringer

If you're looking for a decent job this year, expect to be disappointed. The American Establishment--supplier of most jobs--is in a state of moral and social decay. In this state, it is incapable of providing enough jobs; everyone knows that. But, also, the jobs it does provide only embody or camouflage the moral and social decay.

The American economic system is a rip-off at home as well as abroad: Natick Labs needs bodies to exploit in Natick just as surely as Gulf Oil Corporation needs them in Angola (see "Investing in Apartheid," by Jeff Shlager in the April BT).

And the social structure is a

"THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS A RIP-OFF AT HOME AS WELL AS ABROAD. . . ."

fraudulent hierarchy--a mass ego trip in which the most vicious/or dissociated ones, the most materialistic ones, the most greedy ones, the most hypocritical and most bigoted ones tend to claw their way to the top of the heap.

To hold onto most jobs in this system, you must compete on the terms of the jaundiced majority. Or, if this is too offensive to you, you must at least be willing to follow the orders of people who do compete on these terms. And you must keep fairly quiet about the revulsion you feel as a person confronted with evil. For the American system is an empire now feeding on the evil it exudes. This evil is apparent inside this country wherever you go: in poverty-ridden ghettos, in the blighted and polluted countryside, in employment and food lines, in the assinine and irrelevant courts of law, in the draft for war, in the death-oriented national budget. This evil is apparent abroad in the genocidal Vietnamese War; in America's support of apartheid in Africa; in "counterinsurgency" (Newspeak for combined murder, subversion, torture) in South America; for example, where a four-star general of the U.S. Army commands "our" forces; and in naked economic imperialism across the globe.

GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY

Backing up the evil America wreaks at home and abroad are the government and industry. Without the work done by people in these institutions, the murder and pillage and destruction and rape and exploitation committed in the name of America would be impossible. Without people willing to perform the jobs supplied by government, the evil could not be institutionalized, defended, "legitimized." Without people willing to perform the jobs supplied by industry; America would not have the hardware needed to carry out its projects.

Many federal, state, and local governmental jobs that appear on the surface to offer wholesome work turn out to be deviously oriented--for example, surplus food programs designed primarily to keep up farm prices, and only secondarily to feed the hungry; and Voice of America broadcasting

that has as its main goal the propagandizing of peoples whose hands are cleaner than ours.

THE SOCIETY THAT IS NOT SANE

With government and industry, the Establishment includes "business" in general. As Eric Fromm points out in The Sane Society, American capitalism and those who pursue it tend to harbor assumptions that violate human nature, exploiting human bodies and the human soul for the sake of material profit. For example, in this issue of BT, John Rees examines how unions might respond when companies like GE and ITT exploit the health of their workers in the headlong scramble for profits ("Unite for Safe Working Conditions," p. 4).

In America most jobs have no real meaning; the great majority of workers now detest their jobs. The industrial revolution has all but eliminated the craftsmanship ethic that gave the worker his sense of relationship to his materials, that reinforced his sense of form and art and usefulness.

In a modern technological society like ours, other forces take over the destruction of values once the craftsmanship ethic is dead: "products," whether they be Palmolive or propaganda, are for the most part conceived for the primary purpose of out-and-out profit or narrow self-interest; there can be little worker satisfaction in packaging ten thousand cakes of handsoap--and just as little in packaging ten thousand American lies.

Richard J. Whalen was for a time a speech-writer for Richard Nixon. What he writes of Nixon summarizes the cheapening effect of American capitalist values on everything they touch: endowed with a "superior intelligence," Nixon "put an intellectual's mind in the service of a salesman's temperament. He did not express ideas, he put them across--and in the process turned them into something else. He did more than that. By reducing politics to winning elections, he discouraged those who agreed with him from

"AMERICAN CAPITALISM AND THOSE WHO PURSUE IT TEND TO HARBOR ASSUMPTIONS THAT VIOLATE HUMAN NATURE, EXPLOITING HUMAN BODIES AND THE HUMAN SOUL FOR THE SAKE OF MATERIAL PROFIT."

looking and reaching up." The former speech writer continues: "I was ashamed of being in the company of mediocre merchandisers behind a facade concealing a sad mixture of cynicism, apprehension, suspicion and fear--especially fear."

That description of Nixon would do as an introduction to any study of the character of "the boss" in America. If the worker cannot relate to the product, neither can he relate to those who run him on the job. On top of all that, the system is set up so that one worker is forced into grim competition against another. At Sears the woman who knuckles under to clothing regulations will keep her job; the woman who puts on slacks will get fired (here the

competition is to see who is snivelling enough to suit the boss' need to control the lives of his subordinates). If you drive for Tommy's Taxi, you are thrown into competition against others who drive for the same company; and every one of you are furthermore into competition with drivers from Smitty's, Al's, Center. In taxi-cab driving you do not make a fair wage, a living wage; yet, even at the level of bare subsistence, you and your fellow drivers are forced by the system to act like a mess of vipers in a snake pit. You are cut off from effective sympathy with others who are victimized by the system that is victimizing you. And consider your passengers: in the large majority, they are cheapskate tippers (around Framingham they "think of a taxi cab as a public utility--the meter tells the total price," according to one driver).

"THEY ASSUME THAT YOUR CRAVING FOR THINGS WILL OUTWEIGH YOUR REPUGNANCE AT PERFORMING MEANINGLESS WORK."

Furthermore, your passengers are people deriving their livelihood from "work" performed in the American Establishment--they are exploited, but they are rip-off in their own turn; and how can you respect yourself when you know they are using you to get them to the places where they perform their mockeries of work? Your taxi passengers are all too likely to be middle class "successes" like the ones who pulled the mini-inquisition on Paula Casey (see "Comunidad Unida: an Employment Problem," p. 1, this issue of BT). For doing something that seemed "meaningful and uncompromising" Ms. Casey was crucified in the name of the respectable American dollar; for the guardians of "business mentality" wind up being the practitioners of it, too--they fuck you over just as bad as the man at Honeywell or Raytheon.

MOTIVATIONS FOR "WORK"

Ask yourself why you desire to find a job.

If you are a student, it may be that you want independence from your parents, or that you need money for a car or a bike, or that you want to get married, or go to California. Or you may want to try your hand at some kind of work that intrigues you (you'd better have pull in this year of peak unemployment). If you are out of school, you may carry heavier burdens: you may be forced to support a family, to pay child-support, or simply to support yourself! Certainly, young people over the past ten years have shot down any earlier prejudice that it is somehow good to work--that just working itself is somehow virtuous or worthwhile. How could that be so in a country where work is degraded by the evil inherent in the motives of those in power?

Regardless of the innocence or worthwhileness of your motives as a job-seeker, the vast majority of employers today will co-opt your motives to suit their own needs. And in the vast and dreary "job market" employers know they have one effective means of guaranteeing that people will keep on trying to hold their jobs. It is a means that gained great strength during the industrial revolution in the big cities about the turn of the century. It imposes two complementary (and sick) emotions on people: craving and fear--the carrot and the stick. The carrot

PAGE 9



--the craving for manufactured goods and services--takes advantage of the assumption that humans are greedy by nature: you crave things, but to obtain them you must work for money first. They assume that your craving for things will outweigh your repugnance at performing meaningless work.

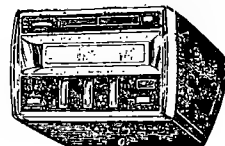
And the stick--fear of hunger, of exposure to the elements, of sickness, of old-age--fear is the remedy to that other basic human quality: laziness. "Either work or go without": under capitalism, that threat to workers and their families lurks behind the glossy surface of every "employee relations" counter.

GIRD UP YOUR LOINS TO DO MENIAL WORK

During the past three years the "job market" has become an increasingly dreary scene. Right now, the greater Boston area, there is an epidemic of unemployment and underemployment. Examples of underemployment are the thousands of teachers who are filling in as waitresses, telephone operators, cab drivers, janitors, sales people, factory laborers. The ranks of engineers and middle-level executives also have

continued on page 11

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Community Center

continued from page 1

Miller (Honeywell) of the Finance Subcommittee, told me of the terrible, agonizing dilemma and decision they had faced.

A fund-raising packet had been prepared for the area businesses. The names of Forbes and Miller and their company affiliations had appeared on the letterhead. This subcommittee had felt compelled to decide that the English translation of the March issue could not be included in the fund-raising packet. It would possibly be offensive to these businesses. The articles were inaccurate. Also, the articles were personally embarrassing and compromising to Fran Miller of Honeywell.

Miller graciously said the Board need not concern itself with his personal embarrassment; the overall thing was more important than the awkwardness of his personal situation.

Two phrases stuck in my mind at this point. I know I heard them correctly, but it was difficult to believe.

"You're on the Board of the Center and look what they're printing about your company." I regret what I didn't print, not what appeared.

Also--"You just can't bite the hand that feeds you."

The whole thing was taking on a nightmarish quality. I was so tired from putting out the issue that it was hard to focus on what was happening and hard to answer charges. I was hardly given a chance to speak and no one seemed to be listening anyway. They were all crouched around that table waiting, each one waiting for the right instant when he or she would have a turn to pounce on me.

Those 12 people got louder and more hysterical and more emotional and hostile and critical. I went more and more into shock. I couldn't recognize these people as the ones who had hired me and with whom I thought I shared some goals and beliefs.

I was told I had alienated Rox-

"SO, I WAS LULLED INTO A FALSE SENSE OF MY (EDITORIAL) FREEDOM . . . WHICH DIED THE MOMENT BOARD MEMBERS FELT THEMSELVES UNDER SLIGHT PRESSURE FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY."

bury Carpet and Honeywell from the Community Center. I doubt their commitment anyway. Comunidad Unida had carried several articles on the attempts of Spanish-speaking workers at Roxbury to obtain representation in the union. Also, I had had a 'discussion' with Dan Hussey, personnel manager at Roxbury Carpet, at a business luncheon where I was trying to raise money for Comunidad Unida. Hussey is one of the most racist, sexist pigs I have ever met.

I was told I was irresponsible in my choice of topics for coverage by Comunidad Unida. It seemed that along with the responsibility of publishing the newspaper, I was also responsible for the image

in the community of Honeywell, Roxbury Carpet and any other businesses.

"What good do you think these articles are going to do?" Ernestine Young screeched. "Do you think they're going to help get Puerto Ricans jobs?"

"Who are you writing this paper for? Who is important? It doesn't seem you think the Puerto Ricans are important!" another voice accused.

"Maybe I'm paranoid," Rev. Gaines said to me, "but why in the last three issues have you run articles on Honeywell and Roxbury Carpet?"

"Yes, Paula," Atty. Aronson said, "Why has the newspaper selected these companies as targets?"

With unemployment in the Puerto Rican community running about 12%, there was no question in my mind and in others', that minority employment and what local businesses were doing about it was a valid topic.

"Let me ask you," Fr. Vasaturo hollered. He was outraged. "Is what you've written in here fair? Does it tell both sides?"

Working for Whom?

As editor, I had never pretended that Comunidad Unida was going to be objective or even could be. Had they forgotten the purpose of the newspaper? Comunidad Unida was a newspaper about Puerto Ricans, their community, their problems, their living conditions. It presented their opinions and also tried to develop new opinions and new knowledge.

I wasted my time there, trying to answer their charges. I was handicapped because of what I had thought was a common set of goals that I shared with that board. I thought they wanted to publish a newspaper as much as I did--a newspaper for the Spanish-speaking community which we hoped would help to unify it. A newspaper which would expose how Puerto Ricans were being fucked over when it came to jobs, to housing, to welfare, to medical care, to education. We hoped that with the newspaper we could begin to fight these things.

For me, it was the ideal job. I could use my abilities, training and experience without feeling I was being co-opted or compromising myself. (I'd formerly worked on an "establishment" newspaper which I left in disgust after 8 months.)

Also, I was earning a living wage and could start to pay off my debts for an over-priced, over-rated college education. I had spent several months unemployed and floundering, then six months in a federal Manpower program, before being hired by the Center in December. But it was worth the previous shit. I had found what I considered meaningful, alternative employment.

My employment agreement with the Board was simply that I had been hired as editor of the newspaper. My responsibility was to produce that newspaper.

Never had the Board said "you must not print this" or "you must print that." In fact, many times Board members had assured me, as we began to get into advertising which I strongly opposed, that in any conflict between an editorial policy and an advertiser, the advertiser would go.

So, I was lulled into a false sense of my freedom and my security based on the Board's support of the concept of editorial freedom which died the moment Board members felt themselves under slight pressure from the business community.

Two and a half hours after the meeting began, they were through

"JOBS LIKE THE ONE I WAS JUST FIRED FROM ARE THE WORST, THE MOST DECEPTIVE, THE MOST PERSONALLY DESTRUCTIVE. . ."

with me. But I was through with them, too. I could never work for people I had no respect for, even if they decided to give me the chance, which I doubted.

A week later, April 12, the Board met again with the staff. I was not invited nor was I ever informed as to the outcome of this meeting. On the 14th I phoned the Center for information and was told by Fr. Vasaturo that the Board had decided not to continue with me as the editor of the paper. There would be some new publication which he described as "lighter, brighter, easier to read, more interesting, with a Puerto Rican editor. More Puerto Ricans would work on it and members of the Board would help."

At this same time I found out I had mono and couldn't work for the next few weeks. April 21 I received a phone call from Ria McNiff, chairperson. She informed me that the Board had decided they no longer wished me to continue as editor of the newspaper. However they felt that they would like one more issue to appear--a sort of transitional issue to whatever kind of publication they would sponsor in the future. The Board also felt sure I could use another paycheck. I refused.

So, here I am. I'm 24. I'm unemployed. I can't collect unemployment compensation. The Center is a non-profit organization not required by law to pay an employer's tax. The Center never felt obligated to inform their employees of this situation. (I was informed of this April 26 by Ria McNiff.) However, the Board has now decided to make it a policy to inform all current employees as well as all future employees that they will not be eligible for unemployment compensation.)

I have \$156.92 in severance pay promised. I'm in debt for my high-priced education. In the past two years I haven't held a job for more than eight months. I'm discouraged. I'm disillusioned. I'm frustrated. I'm full of hatred.

I want to know what happens to people like me? People who think it's a basic individual right to be able to earn a living doing what they can do, doing what is meaningful and uncompromising.

Jobs like the one that I was just fired from are the worst, the most deceptive, the most personally destructive jobs. These are the jobs that seem to offer a hope of choice in this rotten system, a hope of personal freedom and dignity. But, it's not true. In the end, they fuck you over just as bad as the man at Honeywell or Raytheon only from the very beginning he could be recognized for what he is.

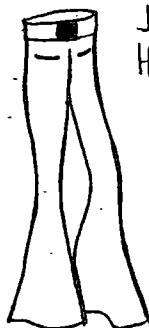
And in the end, I'm left feeling betrayed and isolated and resentful because those 12 people had the power to make me feel once again that my beliefs have no place in this society, that my abilities can only be abused and co-opted. I'm labeled now--an "employment problem."

So where can I live? Where can I work now? What happens to people like me?

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news

continued from page 1

have been told they can keep farming."

Yet, in spite of the overwhelming evidence that the people of South Vietnam do not back the Thieu-Ky regime, the South Middlesex News continues to favor forcing the Saigon dictatorship down the throats of the Vietnamese. While it applauds both Nixon's doomed Vietnamization program and his recent escalation of the war, it viciously slurs those Americans who demand an end to American involvement in the Indochina war. At the same time, the NEWS assailed critics of Nixon's murderous bombing policy by claiming in its editorial of April 14 that war critics are "playing with words" when they attack the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong as an escalation of the war.

Playing with Words

It is indeed ironic that the South Middlesex News should charge opponents of the war with "playing with words". For no one has abused the English language more than Richard Nixon and his Pentagon when they seek to foist on the American people such absurd term terms as "protective reaction," "incursion," and "pacification."

When the U.S. forces marched into Cambodia, the South Middlesex News, in its usual knee-jerk pro-Nixon fashion, dutifully informed us this should not be considered an invasion, but an "incursion." Yet, when Vietnamese fight to free their own country of the corrupt Thieu-Ky regime, the NEWS once again parrots the Nixon line.

The presence of Vietnamese on Vietnamese soil, according to the NEWS, constitutes an invasion. However, the presence of U.S. troops on Cambodian soil, declared the NEWS, was not an invasion, but merely some sort of "incursion." Who are the editors of the South Middlesex News trying to kid?

Owner and Editors: To Arms!

If the owners and editors of the South Middlesex News feel it so necessary that the corrupt Thieu regime be supported with the blood of young Americans and South Vietnamese forced to fight against their will, then perhaps they would be willing to volunteer to fight for the Saigon dictators. They could then take the place of those young American and South Vietnamese soldiers who do not want their blood shed for the wretched Saigon administration.

In so volunteering, the owners and editors of the NEWS would also be performing an outstanding community service. For at long last the people of our area would be rid of that severe blight on our community known as the South Middlesex News.

by Jeff Shlager

'work'

continued from page 3

been hard hit by rising unemployment.

With hundreds of thousands of professionals out of work and seeking jobs, in a time of recession like this it becomes all the harder for the young and inexperienced to find desirable work.

The Nixon administration has

predicted that as employment levels rise, the number of unemployed must necessarily rise, too. When you're looking for a job, it is important to realize that such ideas have been widely accepted by our rulers--and so we are all supposed to feel comfortable with an 8% unemployment rate, or higher. The brunt of unemployment falls on women (see Maria DeFelice's article, "Facts About Women Workers," p. 5 of this issue of BT), teen-agers, veterans (some 400,000 Vietnam vets are out of work), minorities such as Puerto Ricans, and older workers who have been employed all their lives.

Concurrently, on the "labor market" any individual now has a markedly decreased value. And, once you have gotten a job, you are more likely to be treated like a cog in a machine: you "measure, up" or else you will be fired and replaced all the more swiftly.


MENTAL WORK CAN BE AN EDUCATION

Our rulers and their managerial hierarchy realize that the alienation of people from meaningless "work" is a major national problem. This is shown by the growth of schools devoted to the arts of "employee relations," "industrial psychology," "human engineering." Unhappy workers can be conditioned to endure their jobs--endlessly.

If you take a menial job, resist the phoney pressures that are put on you to make you accept your lot. Instead, use your job as a means to a more profound understanding of American values.

If you work as a waitress, this is your chance to digest in your own guts the degrading effects of our society's status and class

PAGE 11



pig

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orientations. If you drive a cab, you will learn the innermost "roadmaps" of the ego trip the middle class takes at the psychological expense of menials. If you wash dishes, or sweep floors, you will have time to ask yourself whether America's goals and values are worthy of your grinding labor.

And then, too: notice on what basis people are accorded dignity and respect in our society. Look at the faces, the eyes, the mouths.

You may decide that you do not crave respect on these terms; you may learn that you have an inner dignity that American pigs cannot see because their hearts are hard, their souls dried up.

If you dig the meaning while you dig the ditches, a genuine revolution of humanity will have taken root in your heart--and you will be on the track of becoming an educated person in spite of all the odds against you.

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91 River St., Cambridge 02139.
354-1555

Homophile Community Health
Service 423-6398, 423-6399
112 Arlington St., Boston
professional counselling service

Radicalesbians
666-2847, 547-5437, 277-1619

Student Homophile League
491-0128, 776-7454
meets every Fri., 7:30pm at the
Milestone Church of St. John Evan-
gelist, 33 Bowdoin St., Boston.
for male & female homosexuals

PEACE, DRAFT

Natick Peace Action
653-8560, 655-2171

Framingham Deaf Counselling
Service 877-3882

ABORTION ACTION

West Suburban Women's Abortion
Coalition. Mary at 653-8560.

RADIO PROGRAMS

"Labor Speaks" United Electric-
al Workers, Sunday, 4:05pm,
WKOX 1190 AM

"Voices of Dissent" Wed., 8pm
WTDS. 88.1 FM; Sat., 8pm
WBUR. 90.9 FM

"Lockup" Sat., 7:00pm
WBCN 104.1 FM

"Gay Way" - a radio program for
the gay community. 8:30-9:00pm
WBUR 90.9 FM

WOMEN'S LIBERATION

Natick-Framingham Women's
Liberation tel. 235-9207
Box 86, Cochituate. 01778

Weston Women's Liberation
Ms. Jancourt, 891-6198

N.O.W. (South Middlesex Chap.)
Joan at 877-0601

brass tacks went to press on May 9 shortly after Nixon made his television threat to escalate the war in Indochina. In the immediate future we will be printing emergency bulletins to spread information as the American people demand that the war end NOW!!
For up to date information, call Natick Peace Action at 653-8560. Information for the bulletins and donations to help pay for them may be sent to 'Out Now!', c/o brass tacks, Bx 82, Cochituate 01778

BRASS TACKS

FREE

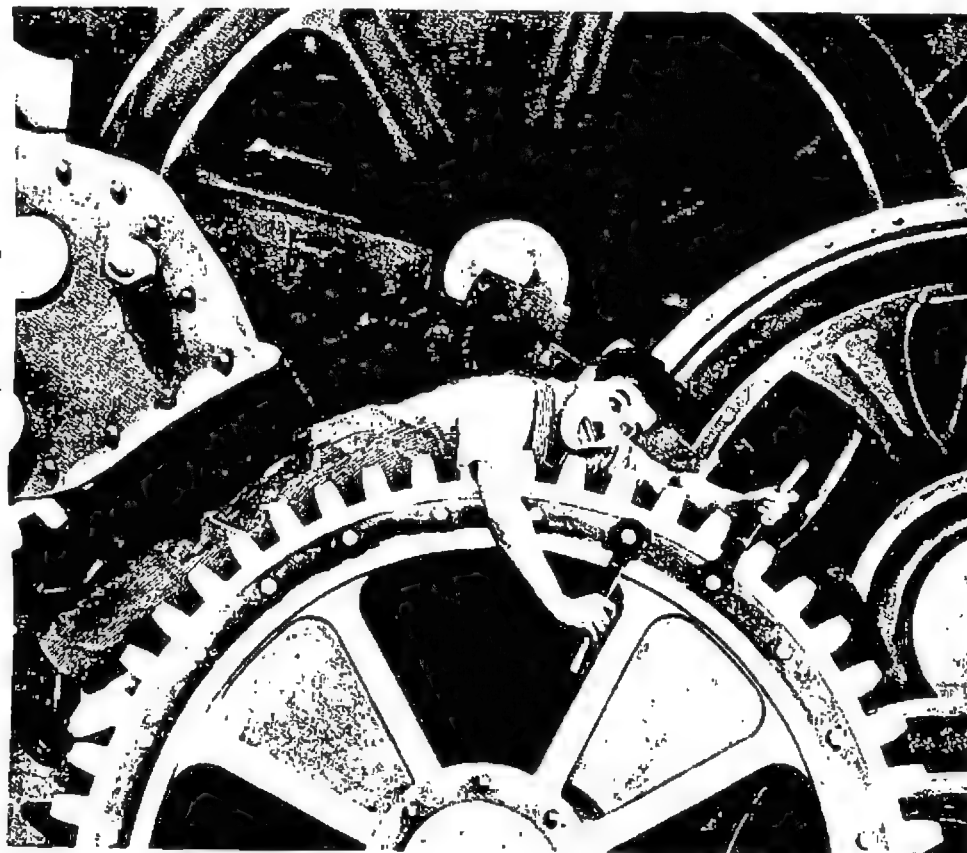
donations
gladly
accepted

VOL. II, NO. 7
MAY 1972

OF and FOR:

NATICK FRAMINGHAM WELLESLEY HOLLISTON ASHLAND DOVER SHERBORN WAYLAND MARLBORO WESTON
PLEASE RECIRCULATE THIS PAPER

IN THE U.S.A.



WORKING

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out now!

President Nixon has put our lives on the line in order to save his 'honor' in Indochina. In his continuing attempt to win a military victory he has mined the ports of North Vietnam and announced that he will continue the massive bombing.

Nixon said that he had 3 options: immediate withdrawal, negotiations, or a military escalation. He rejected the former as dishonorable, said the second had failed, and chose to escalate.

The threat of a direct confrontation with the Soviet Union or the Peoples' Republic of China is clear. Nixon is willing to risk this.

Nixon said that the blockade, mining, and bombing would not stop until the liberation forces agree to 2 demands: a ceasefire and the release of American prisoners. These are the same impossible conditions which Nixon tried to force down their throats in Paris. In no

war are the war prisoners released before the hostilities are ended. The Vietnamese have said that the pilots who were raining death on their country will be released when the U.S. withdraws its forces.

A ceasefire with the presence of American troops and weapons is unthinkable to the liberation forces. They were betrayed by the U.S. at the Geneva Accords of 1954 and have no reason to believe us now.

As for elections; even if Thieu were to step down, his corrupt government and his tremendous secret police would still make them a farce.

The ARVN are fighting because the Americans say they must. Even U.S. airpower and weapons can't give them the will to fight for a government which they don't support.

The American people have made it clear that they want an immediate end to the war. Nixon has chosen to ignore us. With demonstrations, strikes, letters and telegrams we will let our government and the world know that we want the war ended now. With one voice we must say "OUT NOW!!!" (See cover for more information)

BRASS TACKS



COMUNIDAD UNIDA...

an 'employment problem'

by Paula Casey

The Community Center Board of Directors held their usual monthly meeting on April 5. I was late. I'd spent the day at the printer's in Santuit with issue number 7 of Comunidad Unida and the traffic had been heavy on the way back to Framingham.

I didn't particularly want to attend the meeting. My relationship with the Board had begun to be strained and I'd felt a certain hostility and disapproval in previous Board meetings, which usually left me exhausted after a couple hours of constant questioning and criticism.

I distributed the newspaper when I arrived. Most of the Board was there--Chairperson Reverend Charles Gaines, Ria McNiff, George Acosta (an employee of

Raytheon), Jesse Acosta, Susan Brown, Anne Mallet, Paul Marks of Display Crafts, Inc., Fran Miller of Honeywell, Jack Forbes of Fenwal, Attorney Martin Aronson, Father Anthony Vasaturo and Ernest Young (teacher in the bilingual program at Lincoln School). Missing were Jenara Ayuso and Lucy Ortiz.

The meeting was routine and orderly until it was time for my usual monthly statement of the newspaper's financial status. Unlike other staff members I did not prepare a monthly report. I had discovered in previous meetings that it was unnecessary. Board members always had plenty of questions. This night was no exception.

The Board was concerned with 2 articles which had appeared in the March 1 issue of Comunidad

Unida. One had been an interview with Joseph Deschesnes, who is in charge of minority employment at Honeywell. The second article was a commentary on the minority employment situation.

It was critical of businesses which had exploited both their workers and the communities in which they (businesses) were located. Business wasn't doing anywhere near enough for minority persons. According to Deschesnes in June, 1971, Honeywell in Framingham employed 50 minority persons in a work force of 1200; most of those 50 persons were black and oriental professionals. At the time of the interview--March, 1972--Deschesnes said 6.5% of a work force of 1300 were minority group persons. Since November, 1972, Honeywell had hired 29 Spanish speaking persons for hour-

ly rate jobs. (Before the article went to press, I called Deschesnes to recheck my figures. His information was relayed to me through a secretary, but yes, my information was correct.)

The article also talked about racism in the employment situation.

First of all, the Chairperson, Reverend Gaines, reprimanded me for my manners. It seemed Deschesnes had complained about the articles--to a member of the Board, not to me, the person who had written the articles. Deschesnes felt he had been misquoted, the information was inaccurate and the article was critical. The Board felt that since the article was critical, I really had a responsibility to show the article to Deschesnes before publication.

continued on page 3

WAR COVERAGE...

Isn't it about time the people of the Greater Framingham area had an alternative to the Texas-owned South Middlesex News?

For ten years the NEWS has unstintingly parroted the government's discredited line about Vietnam. Now, during the current offensive of the Vietnamese people against the Thieu dictatorship, the NEWS once again has proven itself a highly competent propaganda organ for the U.S. and Saigon governments.

Invasion?

According to the NEWS, the escalation of U.S. bombing in North Vietnam has occurred because of the "invasion" of South Vietnamese territory by the "Reds" from North Vietnam. "396 Reds Killed" said the NEWS headline of April 11, 1972.

Who are these "reds" the NEWS talks about? They are the people of Vietnam, North and South, fighting to oust the corrupt Saigon regime supported by the U.S. government. Many are native south Vietnamese, members of the NLF. Many others are their allies from the northern part of Vietnam. It is these people, declares the NEWS, who are "invading" South Vietnam. The NEWS editorial of April 17 declared, "North Vietnam's invasion of the South has radically altered the course of the Vietnam war."

It would behoove the South Middlesex News to recognize one simple fact: Vietnam is ONE country. The people who live in Vietnam are Vietnamese. How is it possible for the Vietnamese to invade Vietnam when Vietnam is the home of the Vietnamese?

SOUTH MIDDLESEX
DAILY
NEWS

'playing with words'

By calling the North Vietnamese offensive an "invasion" the NEWS has adopted the Nixon line that the North Vietnamese have broken the Geneva Accords of 1954. To understand what is presently going on, it is important to untangle the web of lies and distortions fed the American people by the Nixon administration and its knee-

The Accords stipulated that within two years, in a free and internationally supervised election, the Vietnamese people would choose a regime to govern a reunited Vietnam. All observers at the time (including President Eisenhower) recognized that the communists, led by Ho Chi Minh, would win those elections.

Therefore, the U.S. government encouraged Diem, the puppet dictator it had installed in the south, to disregard the Accords and cancel the elections. For several years after this, the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong continued to insist on the implementation of the Geneva Accords. They ceased emphasizing this demand only after the massive intervention of U.S. ground and air forces into Vietnam rendered the provisions completely meaningless.

Thus, contrary to the belief of the South Middlesex News, the presence of North Vietnamese troops in the south does not constitute an "invasion". The North Vietnamese and the NLF have firmly claimed that Vietnam is one country and that the Vietnamese people have the right to fight against the Saigon administration whose ability to remain in power depends not on the people of Vietnam but on American military support.

Base of Support

But what about the offensive itself? What is actually happening on the battlefields in the South? It is important here to understand that the way the two sides fight corresponds to the political base upon which each relies.

On the one side is the NLF and

their North Vietnamese allies.

Their program is one of national independence and social and economic revolution. In the areas controlled by the NLF, government officials, tax collectors, and landlords have been driven out, opening the way to tangible improvement in the living situation of the people occupying the land.

Even in the often confusing and sometimes incompetent American press reports on the present offensive, occasionally there are reports which give us a glimpse of the significant political differences between the two sides. In an April 15 dispatch from Vietnam, New York Times reporter Craig Whitney describes what happened when ARVN troops captured a town:

"The town, heavily damaged by North Vietnamese artillery, is being torn apart... by the South Vietnamese rangers who occupy it. They were sitting in this abandoned house the other day, drinking beer and rice wine left behind by the townspeople."

"All day long the army trucks moving south from Dongha were filled with soldiers and piles of loot--chairs, tables, refrigerators, TV sets, food, chickens, pigs..." the article continued.

The plundering of the ARVN forces stands in stark contrast with NLF behavior in Anloc as reported by AP correspondent Hugh Mulligan who quoted a U.S. general as saying of the communist forces: "We hear they've set up quasi-governments in the sectors (of Anloc) they own and are distributing food and other goodies. The farmers

continued on page 11



jerk supporters in the press.

Geneva

First, the Geneva Accords of 1954 provided for the temporary division of Vietnam into two zones, to facilitate the disengagement of the communists and the French imperialist forces who had been struggling for the previous eight years, a war which had ended with the decisive defeat of the French.

6990
D

THUMB TACKS

Nam Tac #1

"Not only are the most brutal air attacks of the war being carried out and planned for the future against North Vietnam, the South is also being subjected to the heaviest U.S. bombings of the war." Richard Ward, *Guardian*, April 26.

Nam Tac #2

"What we are witnessing here-- what is being brutally inflicted on the Republic of Vietnam--is a clear case of naked and unprovoked aggression across an international border. The only word for it is invasion." President Nixon, TV address, April 26, 1972.

Nam Tac #3

"South Vietnam was essentially the creation of the United States." Conclusion of Department of Defense analyst in the New York Times edition of the *Pentagon Papers*, p. 25.

Nam Tac #4

"As in previous escalations, U.S. officials are now resorting to slanderous allegations to cover up the truth and to involve the United States in the gears of an extremely dangerous war." Mme. Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the PRG of the Republic of South Vietnam, in *Guardian*, April 26.

Nam Tac #5

"The truth is now impossible to escape if we open our eyes. The United States is the most dangerous and destructive power in the world. . . . Only a fool or a madman could believe, now, that more bombing will bring peace to Indochina. Why are we bombing? To

keep Nguyen. Van Thieu in Saigon. To make sure that Nixon is not the first American President to lose a war. To teach the Russians a lesson about supplying arms to our enemies. Those are some of the reasons that are advanced.

None of them could remotely justify the disproportionate cost of the bombing in human or political terms." Anthony Lewis in *New York Times*, April 17.

Nam Tac #6

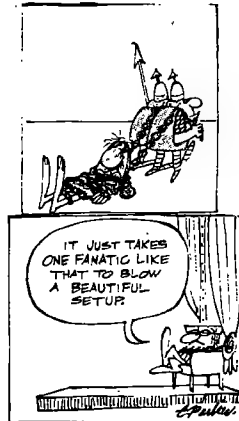
"The image of a 'peace-loving president,' in search of peace and good will in Peking and Moscow, is gone. (Through his escalation of the bombing) Nixon has unmasked himself for what he is--an unprecedentedly ruthless President who has expended more military ordnance in killing civilians than anyone in history." Wilfred Burchett, *Guardian*, April 26.

Nam Tac #7

Nixon said allowing a Communist takeover would cause the office of President of the United States to lose respect in the rest of the world "and I will not let that happen." Speech in Floresville, Texas, *Boston Globe*, May 1.

"The country is governed for the richest, for the corporations, the bankers, the land speculators, and for the exploiters of labor." Helen Keller, 1911

(CPS) "Conventions all over America are bought all the time by the business communities, and everyone in this room knows it." -- Senator Roman Hruska (R., Neb.) exasperated after two weeks of committee hearings about the ITT-Republican Party affair. No one disagreed.



What Equality?

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- Women earn on the average only \$3 for every \$5 earned by men.

The Woman's Bureau, Department of Labor, issuing the report on earnings, said that in 1955 women's median wage was nearly 64% that of men. In 1970, the figure stood at 49.4 per cent.

South Middlesex News

boycott lettuce!

(CPS) The lettuce boycott is on again. The United Farmworkers Organizing Committee has renewed the boycott on non-union lettuce. Lettuce growers have refused to bargain in good faith, and have joined with the Nixon administration in a legal maneuver to kill the union.

UFWOC, which won a five-year struggle to organize grape pickers in California, depends on consumer boycotts for much of its strength. Farmworkers are not covered by Federal legislation requiring companies to recognize unions and prohibiting "unfair labor practices." Therefore farmworkers remained unorganized by the big unions, and have had to create their own union and tactics.

The UFWOC's next target was the lettuce growers of California and Arizona. After a strike and a boycott, the growers agreed to negotiate, beginning on March 28, 1971. The UFWOC agreed to suspend the boycott for thirty days. It continued the suspension until March 7, 1972.

By this time it was clear that the lettuce growers would not agree to even the most basic clause of the contract, which would replace the semi-slave system of hiring through "labor contractors" with a new hiring hall system. The boycott was resumed.

On March 8, the UFWOC learned that the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board (a recent Nixon appointee) would file a complaint in Federal court to get boycott activities declared illegal. The reasoning: although the

farmworkers are not covered by the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act which protect the right to organize, they are covered by the provisions of this and later labor relations laws which restrict the organizing tactics a union can use. In this case, the most important restriction is the outlawing of the secondary boycott ("Don't buy from First National because it insists on buying and selling scab lettuce or wines.")

This decision by the NLRB is a total reversal of policy. The previous general counsel assured the Farmworkers only a little more than a year ago, on March 15, 1971 that the boycott was legal. Several times in past years growers have filed or financed complaints against the boycotts, and each time the Board has ruled that the Farmworkers are not covered by the restrictions.

The Board is controlled by Republican Nixon appointees. Peter Nash, the new counsel, is a former corporation lawyer. One of his clients was Brown-Forman of Kentucky, the sole distributor of Korbels wines. Korbels is also the subject of a UFWOC boycott, and one of the two companies specifically mentioned in Nash's petition to the court.

The UFWOC urges supporters to pressure the Republican Party to reverse this decision. "As this is an election year," a union statement says, "we feel that the Republican Party can be compelled to have the petition for an injunction withdrawn if we have a strong indication of public support."

The court date was originally set for April 6, but has been postponed. UFWOC urges supporters to write to Sen. Robert J. Dole, New Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Sen. Edward Brooke, Old Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. And boycott any lettuce that isn't shipped in a box with the UFWOC "Aztec Eagle" symbol.



United Farmworkers are in this area now, working to gather support for the struggle ahead in the lettuce boycott. Your help is desperately needed. It will require little time on your part and will truly make a difference. In order to succeed, we must ask people to make themselves aware of the problem and learn what they can do to help.

If you can get a group together that would be interested in having an informal program or if you are interested in what you can do, please contact:

United Farmworkers
Bruce Cenney
173 Harvard St.
Dorchester, Mass. 02124
282-4085

(CPS) Next time you open a box of breakfast cereal, consider dumping the contents into the trash can, and treating yourself or your kids to the box. A recent study found many dry cereals so lacking in food value, especially protein, that rats fed on a diet of ground-up cereal boxes mixed with milk, sugar, and raisins, maintained better health than other rats fed on the cereal, milk, etc.

Some cereals have vitamins and minerals added to make them more nutritious, but consumers can pay up to thirty times more for these than they would cost in pill form. General Mills' fortified Total, for instance, tastes, looks, and smells the same as Wheaties, but costs 18¢ more for a 12 ounce box. The wholesale cost of the added vitamins in Total is 6/10 of a cent, and the retail cost would be about a penny.

(From the South Baltimore Voice)

WOMEN

THE NEXT ISSUE IS ABOUT US!

The June-July issue of *brass tacks* will be by and about women. Only women will write and produce it. If you have any poems, artwork, photographs, or articles concerning the joys/sorrows of womanhood send them to:

Brass Tacks
Box 82
Cochituate, Mass. 01778

brass tacks is a community newspaper which presents issues and attitudes not found in the local press, as part of the struggle for progressive social change. Our staff consists of volunteers--young working people, low income people, high school and college students from the local area.

Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *brass tacks* staff. Editorial opinions are expressed in editorials.

Letters to *b.t.* should be less than 200 words in length. We reserve the right to edit longer letters. Letters to *b.t.* must include the sender's name and address. The address will not be printed and the name will be withheld on request. Note: there are no gentlemen or ladies on the *b.t.* staff, nor sirs, nor an editor--just people.

b.t. prints advertising in order to survive. We reserve the right to refuse objectionable copy. We do not necessarily endorse any product advertised, though we will not knowingly print misrepresentational advertisements. Advertising rates are available upon request.

brass tacks subscribes to the Community Press Service.

Contributions of articles, news releases, time, money or moral support are welcome. Inquiries should be sent to:

brass tacks
P.O. Box 82
Cochituate, Mass. 01778

or call 235-9207, 235-3210

brass tacks

Nancy McDonald	Ron Plourde
Gerry Ringer	Adam Hertz
Lynn Blandin	Larry O'Connor
Maria DeFelice	John Rees
Peter Porter	Jack Wall

friends of b.t.

Marilyn Caplin	Jeff Shlager
Anita DeFelice	Diane Bellora
Carol Hillier	
Martha Connors-O'Connor	

'day work lady' sounds off

PAGE 3

The following letter was sent to brass tacks after our February issue. We felt that it would be most appropriate for an inmate at Framingham MCI to answer its charges.

To the Editor:

Comments upon reading "Framingham MCI-Inmates Struggle for Rights," by Maria deFelice and John Rees in your February issue.

I will not quarrel with the description of the sequence of events prior to or following New Year's Eve. I wasn't there.

However, you make some statements and create some impressions that I should like to take issue with.

You said that "jobs on the outside include waitressing, factory work at \$1.60 an hour and maid work at 80¢ an hour." You describe these as stultifying jobs typically given to women in our society and say that they provide cheap labor for manufacturers and middle class housewives.

It is my understanding that the women are given a training program to learn waitressing, a skill that will be useful to them later. All the girls and women I have talked to have been excited about "making board" and having

the opportunity to get out for the day and work as a waitress. The same goes for factory work. To you this type of employment may seem "stultifying." To some of them it may well prove to be otherwise. It may be all that they are intellectually equipped to succeed at.

If you'll study a bit about the history of the Framingham Reformatory you'll discover that it was one of the first prisons in the country to initiate a "day work" program under the leadership of Dr. Miriam Van Waters. It took much planning and work within the community to find suitable placements for the women, as well as skillful preparation within the institution.

It was Dr. Van Waters who wanted the women to feel that they were being trained and rehabilitated and not just "incarcerated." Therefore she called them "students" and not inmates or prisoners. Not a bad idea when you consider that there are various opportunities for the women at the MCI in Framingham to further their education, whether it be to work towards a high school diploma or to take other courses.

As far as "day work" is con-

cerned, I've been a "day work lady" for over 15 years. I pay the women \$1.00 per hour, not 80¢, from the time I pick them up to the time I return them. (We pay for a minimum of seven hours even if the day is shorter). That may sound cheap to you.

Let me tell you what's involved. We, the "day work women" are responsible for the reformatory women for the day. We cannot leave the house and cannot leave them alone. If the woman finds and takes some liquor, aspirin or other medication, it's our responsibility. So all that has to be hidden. Jewelry and money had also better be out of sight. At lunch time we are expected to serve her a proper dinner and not just a sandwich, because she is missing out on her big meal at the institution.

We have a different woman every time. This means showing her around every time and repeating your instructions several times during the day. The woman may be strong and up to a day's work or she may not. She may be good at housework or she may not.

The woman is a stranger and I want her to feel at home. She may be scared because it's her

first time out. She may be scared of me because she's afraid of not meeting my expectations. She may be scared of herself. Will she be able to resist the temptation to run or to take some thing? She may be worried that she won't get back on time or that she might miss an important visitor.

Often she needs to talk--perhaps about her family or perhaps just to chit-chat. Sometimes she's only just the age of my teenager and is eager to hear all about her life style or to listen to her radio.

I lend an ear and try to understand, even though I may have paperwork or telephoning to do or may not be in a communicative mood that day. Often I am emotionally exhausted at the end of cleaning day. I don't think I am underpaying.

Like you I am concerned about the plight of today's prisoners. Unlike you I'd like to wait and give the new Superintendent the chance that I feel she deserves.

Sincerely yours

Mrs. Charlotte Lebowitz
Natick, Mass.

an inmate responds...

Ms. Lebowitz,

My name is Joan Sarno and I am presently incarcerated at MCI Fram. I have just finished reading your open letter to Brass Tacks concerning the Community Work Release Program, and more specifically Day Work. Let me set you straight on a few matters. I found your letter patronizing, insulting and full of gross misrepresentation of the facts. Your "understanding that there is a training program for waitressing" is a misunderstanding. The "training" is in the fact that if a woman has been approved for Work Release, she is 21 and there is an opening of one of the two jobs at the Holiday Inn, she will be trained. As it is, that is the only self-satisfying job available. Did it ever occur to you that there may be a great many women here who need financial support that the Program provides and they are willing to work under humiliating circumstances? The three factories affiliated with MCI have admitted that the Labor provided by the Institution is cheap labor and the management need never raise their wages because there are always women available to be sent out to work. The profit accumulated from the MCI woman, during the course of a year, is staggering.

You speak of "intellectual capabilities." The prisoners of today are far more intelligent and aware than those in Dr. Van Waters' time. Dr. Van Waters may well

have wanted women to feel "trained and rehabilitated" but there isn't any feeling of rehabilitation working at a job, or doing domestic work knowing that you are earning half as much as the other employees doing the same job, because you are a prisoner. We are being degraded and underestimated and misjudged and forced to work at boring and stultifying jobs due to our financial needs.

Your patronizing attitude in regards to the women who have come to your home is insulting to any woman. If you are so "emotionally exhausted" at the end of the day why continue employing MCI women? You can very well hire a professional cleaning woman for twice as much money and little or no stress will be upon you. You are "responsible" for the woman who comes to your home only for the transportation and safety of the woman involved. Mrs. Lebowitz if a woman wanted to leave your home or this institution badly enough do you really believe you are capable of stopping her? You are "expected" to provide a dinner, but is that such a chore? If you possess human emotions and thinking then you would provide said dinner for any person in your home at lunch time.

Mrs. Lebowitz people need people to communicate with and just to talk to. It is true that the women need understanding but not your kind of tolerance and underestimation.

The Community Work Release Program is basically a sound one but the opportunities are limited. There is a lot of room for improvement and affiliations with a variety of occupations. It isn't enough for any person, man or woman, free or incarcerated, to be treated inferior. Your letter and statement is proof of the condescending attitude that the Community has towards the men and women in prison. The bars, fences, locks and gates are poor excuses for people in the Community and especially you, to express their own fears and insecurities.

There are women here who do not know how to do housework or don't like it, women who may drink your liquor or steal your money but those same things could also happen if you had a cleaning woman come to your home.

In conclusion Mrs. Lebowitz, I suggest you really examine your own reasons for employing the women here and if they are as they appear to be - discontinue it because in reality you are not benefiting anyone.

There are day work women who sincerely empathize with the women here and I'm sure you'll find them far more satisfied than yourself. This is an old cliché but it states perfectly what I have to say. You only get out of something as much as you put into it.

Sincerely yours,
Joan Sarno

with misquoting Deschesnes and distorting the information I had found on employment at Honeywell. Honeywell, I was told, had a very highly regarded Affirmative Action Program for minority employment. Seems it's required if a company has government defense contracts.

But more appalling, disgusting and traitorous than all that--I had embarrassed the Board of Directors of the Community Center. The Community Center (pri-

vately supported and since its beginning 3 years ago, a pet of the local business community) is currently involved in a fund drive. The Board had previously regarded the newspaper as an asset to their fund-raising activities. It was concrete, visible, it had just the right amount of radical chic--that is, until the March issue.

Rev. Gaines, a member with Jack Forbes (Fenwal) and Fran

continued on page 10

paid political ad

Vote Socialist Workers in '72

Vote for JENNESS & PULLEY

FOURTEEN POINT PROGRAM OF THE SWP

1. Immediate withdrawal from Southeast Asia.
2. Hands off Bangla Desh.
3. Black and Puerto Rican control of the Black and Puerto Rican communities.
4. Free abortion on demand.
5. Build independent Black and Puerto Rican political parties.
6. 24-hour community-controlled child care centers.
7. Equal pay for equal work.
8. Repeal all anti-gay laws.
9. 100% tax on industries which pollute.
10. Democratic rights for high school students.
11. Repeal the 2/3 law. Democratic rights for prisoners.
12. 30 hour's work for 40 hour's pay. Escalator clauses in all contracts.
13. Call a Congress of Labor to demand repeal of the wage freeze.
14. Build an independent labor party.

For more info. call 235-9207.

comunidad unida...

continued from page 1

Some Board members felt it would be a good general policy of the newspaper to show all articles to the persons concerned before publication. Bullshit!

More bullshit--I was charged

For several weeks you've been having trouble sleeping. One day you notice that your hair is falling out.

ITT- GOLD FOR GOP, MERCURY FOR WORKERS

(CPS) In late February, 16 workers at a lamp factory in Lynn, Massachusetts walked off their job when they discovered they were being exposed to potentially dangerous amounts of mercury on the job. Workers at the plant have made the company change some of its practices and have started a campaign to get the shop cleaned up properly.

The unsafe lamp plant belongs to the International Telephone and Telegraph Company--the same ITT which donated \$400,000 for the 1972 Republican Convention in an apparent deal to settle a government antitrust suit. The same ITT which has charged with conspiring with the CIA to prevent the election and establishment of the socialist government in Chile.

Both ITT and the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Hygiene have known for several years that urine tests on many workers in the plant's fluorescent department show illegally high levels of mercury. During this time, neither the union (Teamsters Local 42) nor the employees were informed.

Wherever mercury liquid is present, unenclosed, at room temperature, it releases harmful mercury vapor into the air. The more mercury in any form enters the body, the

greater the chances that it is doing harm. People who suffer from mercury poisoning often have shaky hands, arms, or legs. They can have trouble sleeping at night, lose weight, and have mental problems. Mercury damage to the mind and kidney cannot be cured by any known treatment.

In May, 1971, after the union ran its own tests, the company made two concessions. It installed new ventilation, but without the aid of industrial hygienists trained to reduce the danger. It agreed to give out test results on request, but with no explanation. Workers were told, "Your mercury count is 0.051 or '0.25' or 'not high'."

In early February of this year, one woman in the fluorescent department was told she would be transferred to another job--no reason given, as usual. This woman had been seeing a doctor for the past two weeks because her hair had been falling out and she had difficulty sleeping. The company had also asked her for two urine samples in quick succession.

She suspected she had been switched because she had picked up a dangerous amount of mercury. The suspicion spread. Sixteen women had private tests done. As they suspected, some of them had mer-

cury in their system above the maximum safe level declared by the state.

When confronted, the company nurse and personnel director claimed there was no real danger, and at any rate working conditions were as good as they could make them.

The women felt their health was more important than any job, and refused to work until something was done. Over a dozen women stayed out for two weeks without pay or other compensation; a few stayed out longer.

While the women were striking, the latest state test results revealed that out of a sample of workers in the fluorescent area, fourteen had more than .15 milligrams of mercury per liter of urine (the maximum safe amount), and five had more than .50 mg.

As a result of the walkout, the union negotiated another agreement with ITT, providing mercury tests at any time on demand, and an automatic transfer to a safer job for anyone with a mercury count above .15 mg. The women who walked out were not punished, and did not have to return to work until their mercury count dropped below .15 mg. However, they did not get back their lost pay.

The union is trying to get these women workmen's compensation,

just as for a worker who loses pay due to an injury. This would be an important precedent for all workers in potentially disease-producing jobs, but chances of victory are slim; victory are slim.

A group of union stewards and workers from the fluorescent shop (both the ones who walked out and others who did not) have begun a campaign to force the company to fix things up so no one gets too much mercury. They know it can be done--other workers in the same local working in a Sylvania lamp plant have had no problem from mercury since Sylvania cleaned up their shop some years ago.

This shop has demanded cleaning up the shop, more frequent tests with public results, break time for employees to wash up and eat outside the mercury area, and a company policy of informing new employees about the mercury danger. They also plan to get more information themselves about mercury dangers, and to get test results directly from the state, not through the company.

So far they have won a partial victory. ITT has agreed to hire occupational health experts from MIT to advise them on the mercury problem. Whether ITT will spend money to clean up as well as get advice, remains to be seen.

After 8 hours of the constant noise it takes a while before you can hear normally again. After a year or two working 8 hours a day in the constant roar you begin to go deaf.

by John Rees

At the General Electric plant in Ashland the Automatic Screw Machine shop (where the tiny gears that go into GE timers and clocks are made) is notorious for its poor working conditions. For years oil mist in the air was so thick that you couldn't see two aisles away. The 1966 strike by the United Electrical Workers had as one demand the installation of adequate ventilation equipment. The company had said before the strike that it would be prohibitively expensive to install the equipment, but the strike forced them to find the money and the oil mist problem was improved somewhat.

The sound level in the ASM shop is well over 90 decibels. Medical studies have shown that 10% of people exposed to a noise level of 90 decibels (the legal limit for continuous exposure) will

suffer permanent hearing damage. Ninety decibels is equivalent to pushing a loud power lawn mower. High sound levels also cause tension and fatigue and have been linked to increased heart disease.

About 2 years ago people in the shop filed complaints with their shop stewards and UE local 205 at Ashland began to pressure GE to do something about the high sound level. GE denied that the noise level was a problem and gave the same answer it had in 1966 - it would cost too much to do anything about it.

The union continued to pressure the company for action. There were several obvious changes which could have been introduced to lower the noise level: replacing some metal gears with quieter nylon gears, sound insulation around gearboxes, and baffles between machines to absorb and deflect the sound.

going deaf at GE

After 1 1/2 years the company offered its solution: earmuffs. Not only were the earmuffs uncomfortable and inconvenient, but they were also inadequate sound barriers. In order to be effective they require an airtight seal; the safety glasses which must be worn at all times in the shop break the seal and make the earmuffs almost useless.

The people working at GE kept the pressure on. Workers on the shop floor continued to complain to supervisors and the union continued to pressure the management. Finally, 3 or 4 months ago, the company 'recognized' the seriousness of the problem. The union brought in outside technical assistance which documented the extent of the excessive noise level. GE has since agreed to provide earplugs and to take other measures to reduce the overall noise level.

There are still many problems at GE Ashland, but at least one has been solved. With persistence and the active support of the membership the United Electrical Workers were able to protect the hearing of the people in the ASM shop. Not all workers are that lucky.

(CPS) From the Wall Street Journal, March 14: "Worried about the high noise levels at its Elkhart, Ind. plant, Schott Industries, Inc. hit upon a novel solution. It hires only deaf people to work in the noisiest part of the plant. A year after beginning the experiment, six deaf men are still holding down jobs that previously distressed workers with normal hearing."

Workers who are now going deaf in noisy plants can rest assured that these special jobs await them in the future.

unite for safe working conditions

by John Rees

Unsafe or unhealthy working conditions are not uncommon in America. The two situations described above happened to dozens of workers in Massachusetts in the last few years. Many thousands of other workers in Massachusetts continue to work under unhealthy conditions. What is unusual in both the above cases is that the workers were able to force their employers to improve the unhealthy working conditions.

The Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 is designed to help workers by providing safety regulations which are much tougher and fines which are stiffer than those in the state laws. Though the law is a step in the right direction, the OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration - which enforces the law) can not track down the major-

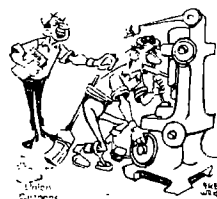
ity of violations because it is inadequately staffed. Six inspectors must cover all of Eastern Massachusetts.

Given the nature of law enforcement in the United States, it is doubtful that even a strong law will do much to improve working conditions. For example: Strict laws regulate mining practices, but the corrupt United Mine Workers looks the other way while the laws are ignored. The recurring mining disasters, like the one in Kellogg, Idaho, are the results.

Workers have long had their lives shortened by unsafe and unhealthy working conditions. Only by coming together in unions responsive to their needs can working people have even a chance of facing down the large corporations and forcing them to comply with even the existing inadequate safety laws.

Without their unions the people

at GE Ashland and ITT Lynn would have had no place to turn. Many workers are still either without union protection or belong to bureaucratic unions which do not respond to their members needs. A worker without union protection has to depend on the benevolence of the owners of his/her plant for safe, healthy working conditions. (Not to mention pay, fair treatment, or any other working conditions.) Since the owners of the



"Pardon me, but you seem to have that unorganized look..."

businesses in this country are primarily interested in making money, the safety of their employees is of little concern. If cutting corners, speedup, or improper equipment can save money, then an unprotected working person had better expect to suffer.

The only long range way to change this situation will be to change the reasons why people have to work. If people worked to satisfy human needs instead of to make a profit for the owners of the means of production, then unsafe working conditions would be unthinkable. It would then be as important that people have a safe, healthy, satisfying job as it would be for them to have a good place to live, good food to eat, and time to do the things they enjoy. As long as corporate power forces the society to meet corporate needs, the needs of the people will not be met.

by Maria DeFelice

Women have long been the forgotten third of the labor force. Always the last hired, first fired, women's condition is degenerating. While more women than ever before are now working, they are in an increasingly worse position. The gap between women's wages and men's is increasing despite the passage of the 1963 Equal Pay Law and the 1964 Civil Rights Law which forbids discrimination on the basis of religion, color, race, or sex. According to the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Dept. of Labor in 1955 women's wage rate was 64% of men's, while in 1970 they received less than 50% of the men men's.

Women are paid less than men for the same work. For example, men who are class A accounting clerks earn from \$6.50 to \$42.50 a week more than women holding the same jobs. Female scientists in 1970 earned from \$1,700 to \$5,100 a year less than men in the same fields. Some equality.

Like Black men, women with four years of college earn no more than white men with eighth grade educations. The unemployment rate for women is double that of men. This does not include housewives of women returning to work after a period of absence from the work force.

In 1966 only 1/7 of female workers, while 1/4 of male workers, were in unions. Less than 1/5 of union members are female.

HOW ARE WOMEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST?

Many excuses have been given by businessmen as to why they either refuse to hire women or pay them less than men. They claim that women are sick more often than men and are therefore more absent from work. The fact is that women are absent no more than men are. A recent study showed that women are out, due to illness or injury, 5.9 days while men are absent 5.2 days per year. In 1968 a Public Health Survey revealed that women lost only 5.3 days while men lost 5.4 days.

Another popular excuse is that women don't stay at the same job as long as men do. Studies have shown that the nature of the job, not the sex of the employee, determines the turnover rate. In many areas, e.g. engineering, men change jobs frequently because they are constantly looking for advancement. Most women do not continuously change jobs in search for better pay or position and are generally more loyal--admittedly to their own detriment. Another reason women get paid less is that managing a home, child-rearing and housework is not considered work experience. Most women returning to work after raising a family must start at the bottom of the pay scale.

WHAT KIND OF WORK DO WOMEN DO?



"The women worked in the mills for lower pay and in addition had all the housework and care of the children. At the end of the day's work--or now, of strike duty--the man went home and sat at ease while his wife did all the work preparing the meal, cleaning the house, etc. There was considerable male opposition to women going to meetings and marching in the picket line. We resolutely set out to combat this. We had special meetings for the women at which Baywood and I spoke... The women were strikers as well as wives and were valiant fighters."
--Elizabeth Garley Flynn, 21-year-old organizer for IWW in Lawrence strike, 1912.



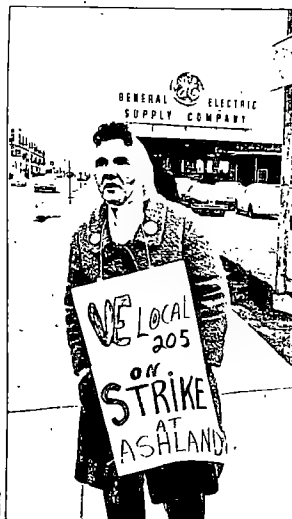
Hard Times/CPS

Facts About Women Workers

at jobs.

WHY DO WOMEN WORK?

One of the most common myths about women workers is that they



work only to obtain 'pin money'. Most women who work must work. In 1967 5.2 million families (10% of the total) were headed by women (no husbands present). Over 30% of Boston families have women as heads of households. More than half of these women worked. 75% of all married female workers have husbands who earn less than \$7,000 annually; the majority of them make less than \$5,000. This is well below the poverty level, 40% of female workers are single, widowed, divorced or separated.

Another common myth about women is that women take jobs away from men (this accusation assumes that only men deserve jobs). In 1970 there were 31.5 million women workers and only 2.2 million unemployed men. Even if the men were capable of filling those jobs there would still be 29.3 job openings. In any case, women and men shouldn't fight each other for jobs, but should get together to fight for full employment for all who want it.

WHY ARE WOMEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST?

Even though women constitute 38% of the labor force the first responsibility of women has been defined by society as that of reproduction and child-rearing. Individual women, not society, are solely responsible for the raising of children. Because of this emphasis women have generally accepted low-status jobs for low wages. Work done outside the home is considered secondary,

and therefore of lesser importance. Business saves billions of dollars each year by paying women lower wages than men.

Women also serve as a reserve labor force, a kind of safety valve for the capitalist system. During World War II, for example, women were encouraged to fill the positions left by men who became soldiers. The government even set up day care centers for children of working mothers. Women proved just as capable at these jobs as men had. But when the men returned at the end of the war, there weren't enough jobs for everybody so the day care centers were closed and the women sent home to have babies. Instead of careers, women's magazines started pushing the joys of domesticity, motherhood and consumerism. If women and men considered work done inside and outside the home to be of equal importance to both sexes, this could not happen.

SOLUTIONS

While women are discriminated against, men are not free. The struggle for women's liberation must take place on many levels. Even if women were to gain equal rights with men under capitalism, it would only mean equal unfreedom. Both women and men are trapped by a system that places property rights above human rights, profits above human needs. Only when all the people gain control over the means of production and distribution under a form of democratic socialism can women and men be truly liberated.

Until that happens there are many reforms workers can fight for and gain. We demand:

- * Paid maternity leave for women and men with no loss of seniority.
- * Equal job and educational opportunities with an end to sex-role tracking.
- * Equal pay for equal work.
- * Free 24-hour community-controlled child care.
- * An end to discrimination in hiring and promotions.
- * Free contraception and abortion on demand for all as we must control our bodies if we are to control any other aspect of our lives.

STEARNS ORGANIC FARM
NATURAL FRUITS
and VEGETABLES
WHOLE FOODS
859
EDMONDS ROAD
FRAMINGHAM

UNITED PEOPLES IS AN ORGANIZATION OF LOW-INCOME PEOPLE AND WELFARE RECIPIENTS WORKING TOGETHER IN WELFARE ADVOCACY, HEALTH, EDUCATION, SURPLUS FOODS, TRANSPORTATION AND ALL FACETS OF HOUSING.

U.p. TEACHES PREJUDICE WORKSHOP

United Peoples representatives recently participated as paid instructors in "Prejudice and the Schools," an inservice workshop for Framingham public school teachers.

Sponsored by the Lincoln Filene Center for Citizenship and Public Affairs of Tufts University, the workshop also brought before the Framingham teachers Dean Norman Rosenblatt of the College of Criminal Justice of Northeastern University.

Discrimination the topic

They specifically dealt with minorities and legal and social discrimination.

The purpose of the workshop, part of a 12-week course, is to develop among teachers an awareness of the problems of minority groups in the Framingham area. United Peoples participated in the hope that these teachers will develop and use curriculum materials and activities that will promote positive self-concept in minority students, and that will help non-minority children to get in touch with their own intolerance.

Howard Cohen, attorney for United Peoples, opened with an extensive review of how the law discriminates against the poor as a minority group.

Nancy McDonald of Wayland, the chairwoman of United Peoples, demonstrated how the welfare department goes about setting up a monthly budget allowance. She selected the family situation of one of the teacher-participants as an example. Ms. McDonald exposed the rationale for the stipulations for various allowances, and related the many problems and frustrations recipients face whenever they have to confront the local welfare bureaucracy.

"Some Welfare Laws are Sane"

"Actually," Charlie Deutsch of UP told the teachers, "some of the welfare laws are sane in that they take into account real things. An example of this would be allowing a welfare mother, whose child wishes to continue beyond high school, to work and retain all the money she earns. The child must be a junior or senior in high school.

"This is a good law," Deutsch concluded, "but probably there aren't four cases such as this in Framingham, because the welfare department doesn't actively en-



Sam Swisher, Charlie Deutsch, Howard Cohen, Nancy McDonald, and Thelma Klein.

United Peoples Inc.
36 Concord St. Framingham
872-4853

courage this or even make it known."

Thelma Klein, an organizer in UP, stated: "Even with those few laws that are fair, the system falls short in administering them --and the people subsequently are discriminated against."

Bureaucrats and Minorities

Sam Swisher, member of UP, told of his extensive testing for lead paint in homes--a condition that can cause lead paint poisoning particularly among the poor. He emphasized that it is an uphill battle with politicians to get any establishment help in the struggle.

Dean Rosenblatt emphasized to the teachers that "Attitudes on the part of law enforcement officials, as well as those of judges in the courts, often adversely affect the administration of justice toward minority groups."

Rosenblatt stressed the need to develop awareness of this situation as a functional problem and one to which teachers should address themselves when dealing with their own or their students' attitudes.

Asked what she thought of the "Prejudice and the Schools"

news

workshop so far, Patricia West, teacher at the Walsh Middle School, said: "It's great. As a matter of fact, I think it should be required for all the teachers in Framingham."

WELFARE HEARING AT STATE HOUSE

Representatives of United Peoples attended a Public Hearing on the Mass. Welfare Department's new hardship regulations at the State House, April 26.

Moving Expenses

Guidelines proposed for the regulation of payment of moving expenses appear to require near-disaster before the department will assist a recipient family to move to better housing. Provision 2, which requires the local Board of Health or Housing Inspection Department to certify that a family is living in sub-standard housing, is completely unrealistic. It requires recipients to appeal to one more hostile bureaucracy in order to improve their situation. Does the Welfare Department really want to give decisive power, in small towns and cities, to elected or appointed officials who may have no sympathy for recipients? Some local officials would approve payments only if a recipient were moving out of town. This provision is just not helpful. If a recipient is able to move from a sub-standard to a standard apartment, that is sufficient justification for Departmental assistance with moving expenses. Anything less does more to create hardship than to ease it.

Furniture and Household Effects

To replace provisions for furniture and household equipment with regulations for washing machine repair avoids the real issue. There are many occasions when the purchase of furniture is a critical necessity. Often, recipients who have been living in sub-standard or overcrowded housing find an opportunity to move to larger quarters. If a mother with six children has moved from a two-bedroom to a four-bedroom apartment, she needs furniture badly. The exclusion of any assistance with furniture needs forces recipients

to enter purchase agreements with unscrupulous dealers. Frequently such dealers charge overwhelming interest for shoddy merchandise. The new hardship guidelines thus create another hardship.

Shelter Arrearages

Everyone knows that the welfare budget does not provide enough money for families to find standard housing. The proposed provision for shelter arrearages forces recipients to the point of desperation before the Department will give emergency assistance.

Fuel and Utility Arrearages

Again, the Department budget does not allow enough money for fuel and utility payments. How can the Department be party to budget arrangements with a utility company that requires a monthly payment of, for example, \$40, when the Department budget for utilities is less than half of that? And how can the Department allow a family's heat and lights to be cut off in mid-winter, simply because the Department assisted with a utility arrearage 18 months earlier? Once again, the hardship guidelines create hardship.

Initial Needs

The First Thirty Days Provision has been the one thing that has enabled many welfare recipients to survive under the Flat Grant system. To eliminate the provisions of the First Thirty Days is to make the Flat Grant system totally unworkable.

WELFARE TO THE RICH

The news media and politicians give a lot of attention to the high cost of "public welfare programs." However, they never point out that the most expensive government payments aren't made to "welfare recipients", but to giant corporations and to millionaires.

For instance, while the poor are losing their special needs grants, the super-rich have and continue to receive them.

Every year, some \$4 billion in cash grants is given to farmers. Although thousands of small farmers still out every year because they can't break even, almost all of these subsidies (welfare) go to huge farming companies.

One of these "welfare" farmers is Senator James Eastland of Mississippi--third ranking member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. He gets a yearly payment of \$130,000.

Oil companies get two kinds of welfare. They get a special super-tax-welfare, by which they pay lower tax rates than individuals in the lowest tax brackets. And the government helps them to take money directly out of people's pockets by import regulations designed to keep prices high.

In 1970, Gulf paid a total of 1.2% of its profits in taxes; Atlantic paid 4.1%, Standard Oil of Calif. paid 5%, and Standard Oil of Ohio, with a net income of \$66 million, paid no federal taxes at all, but instead received a 10% credit which it can apply to future bills.

These are only two of the innumerable examples of welfare to the rich and super-rich. But, one must remember it is always call-subsidies with the rich.

Congress passes these programs year after year, gathering up the wealth of the country and redistributing it among the upper classes. Meanwhile they further reduce aid to the truly needy.

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VS.

HOSTILE BOARD

The tenants of the Beaver Street Housing Project witnessed the Framingham Housing Authority Board "in action", Tuesday, April 18th.

Several tenants went to the meeting to discuss their concerns and to suggest some changes in the management of the project. We went with good intentions, approaching the housing authority on a friendly basis. A few of the members received us rudely and with inconsiderate, caustic remarks. We were further insulted by their refusal to take us seriously.

The board is made up of four elected public officials and one Governor's appointee. Mr. O'Grady, an elected official and Mr. Murphy, the appointed one, are not deserving of their positions. It would be a revelation for people to see the attitude these men have toward the tenants. In their attitude, they appear to consider us ignorant and look down on us -- merely because we are low-income. They feel they are doing us a great service just by letting us live in the project. Some of them seem oblivious to the fact that, it is because of us, that they have their positions.

Now, get this--they advised us to consider the project as our own homes and then, told us the "management" was their concern! If we are to think of the project as our homes, then, the management is of great concern to us as well as the physical appearance.

Sometimes, some of the members appear fair and willing to listen. At these times, it's unfortunate that their efforts are hindered by a few. We don't expect to agree on everything, but, we do expect our suggestions to be taken seriously and considered carefully.

Maybe, the board is unaware of the way Mr. Canning operates. "Little Caesar" uses fear tactics to make any tenants who stand up to him, to submit.

The board denies this fear, but, when the tenants are approached, the majority of them expressed fear of reprisal from Canning. They approved of the Tenants Council, but, didn't want to take an active part because of their fears.

Does the board really know of Canning's actions behind their backs--sometimes against a direct decision concerning specific matters?

The tenants intend to continue their efforts to improve the project. We realize we have some advantages over some other housing projects, however, there is much room for improvement.

Marjorie Dickinson
Beaver Street
Tenants Council

DAY CARE TRAINING PROGRAM

For women who are interested in caring for children in their own homes--eight sessions, 2 1/2 hours per session. Training will include basic development, creative play, etc. Participants receive license at end of program.

Contact Jane Lovett, Catholic Charitable Bureau, 35 Lincoln St., Framingham. 879-4890

alcohol rehab center

At the April 10th SMOC Board Meeting, John DeLorey, Director of the Alcoholism Program gave a fascinating and detailed description of the center. He told us the program began in September, 71 and the case load had already reached 121 and increases every week. In fact, one day since April 10th, John told me 10 new persons were admitted into the program in one day. John and his assistant, Ernie Simpson, have had invaluable and thorough training at Rutgers University.

The Center, with the assistance of AA Volunteers, is now open seven days a week. He described the detoxification program, drop-in center and AA group meetings,

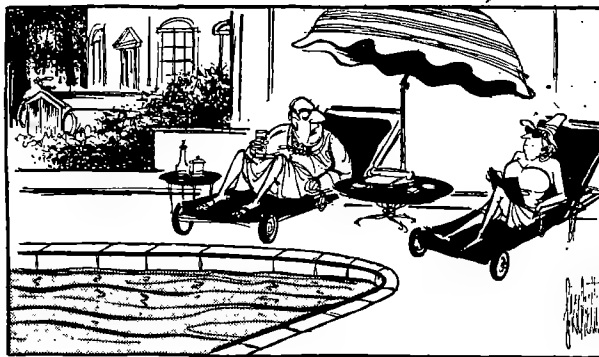
which are held every Friday evening at 8:30 at St. Stevens Church.

These meetings began with 12 to 14 people and is now up to 70 to 75 each week.

The "course" that has been taught at Marian High School is now beginning at Framingham south and Natick.

John and his staff are asking for refunding through the National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse for continuation of the Center in Framingham, and the beginning of one in Marlboro. They are also working with hospitals to free more beds and working towards a half-way house.

Nancy McDonald



"Of course I think of the poor! Didn't I write to our senator demanding he get them off our backs?"

u.p. testifies

The following testimony was given by United Peoples at the hearing:

"Gentlemen:

At the General Relief Hearings, right here, several months ago, we heard testimony against the cut-backs. In vain--we gave testimony.

An hour ago, a woman in desperate need, on general relief, testified she had no money to move her furniture, therefore; no beds for her children and her self to sleep in. They all slept on the floor. Now, you want to do the same thing to AFDC Mothers.

Under the new proposals, if a mother finds a better apartment, healthwise or a cheaper one, the welfare department will not pay for moving expenses. So--she'll just have to continue using a large part of her children's food money to pay for shelter.

Under the new proposals a mother

er may not even get a bed or mattress to replace broken ones.

Will they really have to sleep on the floor?

Are poor children really so unimportant?

Are they really so --NOTHING?

Also, under the new proposals, you will dispense with initial needs.

In the group we work with, United Peoples of Framingham, we find most people so desperate by the time they apply for welfare, that they have nothing.

A family has often broken up and money is owed on furniture--the furniture may be confiscated--the husband may have needed some--or it may have been sold for food money or legal fees.

And--YOU would take away this much."

Nancy McDonald,
Chairwoman, U.P.

Adele MacDonald,
Treasurer, U.P.



SOUNDS FAMILIAR...

The Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (covering Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North and South Dakota) has just applied for a 12 percent rate increase. And they sure need it. The Northwestern division of Bell only cleared a measly \$78.7 million in 1971!!

lead paint testing

United Peoples has been testing the interior paint in the Greater Framingham area for the past several weeks. So far, 73% of the units tested have been positive--they have lead paint. All the units tested house children between the ages of one and six.

A window sill or railing at mouth height that can be chewed is a frequent source of lead, even when the paint is not peeling. Lead paint for use on children's toys, furniture and indoor use in houses is outlawed, but, most old houses have one or more coats of lead paint inside them somewhere. It is also these old houses where paint frequently falls off in large pieces.

If a child eats a paint chip containing a thick coat or two thin coats of 0.5 percent lead paint bigger than a square centimeter, he has exceeded the maximal permissible daily intake. Of course, if the chip contained 5 - 10 - or 20 percent lead, which is not uncommon, the chip could be far smaller. For instance, for paint containing 10 percent lead, the chip could be this size.

This amount consumed each day for about three months could cause death.

If a child with lead poisoning is not diagnosed and treated until he has obvious symptoms, and if he survives, he will have approximately, a one in three chance of having permanent brain damage. Two such attacks practically assures him of permanent brain damage.

United Peoples has been testing with a 7% strength sodium sulfide solution. It is applied directly to the paint chip and is capable of determining presence of lead content per dry weight, from 0.6% to 4%, depending on color.

Testing has been carried out on a systematic basis, taking samples from all painted surfaces under four feet.

Framingham Health Inspector, John Sullivan, has agreed to accept chips gathered by U.P. for forwarding to the Food and Drug Administration Labs. in Boston.

This is an important recognition of United Peoples role as a community group.

People with young children, particularly those living in older homes, may call U.P. (872-4853) to have their paint tested. There is no charge.

Sam Swisher
United Peoples

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How to Get on UNEMPLOYMENT

(CPS) Unemployment in Massachusetts is bad and getting worse. In most cities, more workers are getting laid off every week, and in some cities whole plants are closing up shop. It's difficult and often impossible to find a decent and good paying job. For these reasons alone, unemployed workers should have all the facts about the benefits to which they are entitled to under the Employment Security Act.

The unemployment benefit system is completely inadequate--the benefits are less than half of what they should be; no benefits should run out as long as there is a shortage of jobs; and strikers; farm-workers, domestics, students, and others should be eligible for benefits. All workers need to unite to force the unemployment system to provide an adequate income, and one of the things we need to do first is make sure that those of us that are unemployed now are getting everything that we are entitled to.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Most workers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, whether residents or not, are eligible. If you are a Massachusetts resident working out of state, you are still eligible. State and Federal employees are eligible. But those who work seasonal farm labor and those who do domestic work are excluded by the Mass. Employment Security Act.

In order to be eligible to file a claim for unemployment benefits, a worker must first, be out of work or only be working part time, and second, have earned at least \$900 (gross) in the 52 weeks prior to the week in which he or she files a claim.

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE BENEFITS?

From the day you first apply for benefits until your last week of benefits, you are required to accept full and suitable employment if it is offered to you. But, under certain circumstances you have the right to refuse a job that is offered to you. For example, you may refuse a job which is below your skill level, at a wage substantially lower than you previously earned, or which will create undue hardship--such as travelling a long distance to and from work.

If the Division of Employment Security can prove in an "impartial" hearing that you were fired from your job because of misconduct, you are required to serve a 4 to 10 week waiting period before you begin to receive your benefits. Also if DES can prove in an "impartial" hearing that you quit your job without good reason (i.e. medical, discrimination, etc.) you are required to serve a ten week penalty period before receiving benefits.

HOW DO YOU FILE FOR BENEFITS?

You should apply for benefits at the DES office nearest your home or your place of work. Apply at your regular reporting time, which (for any office in Massachusetts) can be determined by checking the last figure of your social security number against the following schedule:

IF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ENDS IN	YOUR REPORTING TIME IS
0	Monday Morning
1	Monday Afternoon
2	Tuesday Morning
3	Tuesday Afternoon
4	Wednesday Morning
5	Wednesday Afternoon
6	Thursday Morning
7	Thursday Afternoon
8	Friday Morning
9	Friday Afternoon

When you go to file your claim, bring with you your separation notice from your last employer, your social security card, a DES identification card (if you have one), and a list of names and addresses of all employers you had worked for in the previous 52 weeks. After you file, there is a one week waiting period without benefits, which means that your first weekly benefits should come two weeks from the day you claim.

When you first file, or perhaps in one of the next two weeks, you will be interviewed to see if you are actively seeking work on your own. There is no legal standard for what is accepted as proof--standards vary from office to office and interviewer to interviewer. Sometimes it is enough to tell where you have inquired about work; but you might be required to submit copies of applications you have filed, even if you have been told by these companies that no jobs are available.

HOW MANY WEEKS CAN YOU RECEIVE BENEFITS?

To find the total number of weeks you can receive benefits, you must first figure out the total amount of benefits to which you're entitled, that is, your total benefit credit. Your total benefit credit is the lesser of these two formulas: either 1) 36% of your total gross wages earned in your base period or 2) 30 times your weekly benefit rate. Now, simply take your total benefit credit and divide by your weekly rate in order to find out how many weeks you can receive benefits.

In addition, as long as the state unemployment rate remains high (as defined by DES), you can receive Extended Benefits and Emergency Benefits. Extended and Emergency benefits together equal the same number of weeks of your regular benefits. So if you're eligible for 26 weeks of regular benefits, then you're also eligible for 13 weeks of Extended Benefits and 13 more weeks of Emergency Benefits.

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO APPEAL?

You have the right to appeal any decision which you feel is unfair. Request for a fair hearing should be filed with DES within 5 days of any decision which you are going to appeal. Appeals first go to the Division within DES. You can always appeal any decision of the Division to the Board of Review.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Get the benefits that you have coming to you. Organize for the guaranteed right of everyone to have a decent job and an adequate income.

Local Division of Employment Security Claims Offices

206 Howard St., Framingham
186 Main St., Marlboro
14 Spring St., Waltham

abortion demo

On Saturday, May 6, 500 women and men rallied on Boston Common in front of the State House in the first demonstration of its kind ever to be held in Boston. It was sponsored by the Boston Women's Abortion Action Coalition as part of a national demonstration to demand the repeal of all abortion and contraception laws, and an end to forced sterilization.

The demonstration started at Copley Square and marched to the Common. The march and rally were spirited, with lots of chanting ("not the Church, not the State, women will decide our fate"; "our bodies, our lives, our right to decide") and singing songs written by the New Haven Women's Liberation Rock Band.

Speakers included Barbara Roberts, National Project Director and founder of the Women's National Abortion Action Coalition; playwright Myrna Lamb, author of "Mod Donna" and "Cyklon Z"; Jeanne Lafferty, Socialist Workers Party candidate for the 9th Congressional district.

While any time women march in the street is a celebration, the speakers showed that we mean business. They attacked the male-dominated Church and legislature for depriving women of their right to control their own bodies, and accused them of condemning thousands of women to death annually with reactionary laws. "If men could get pregnant, abortion would be a sacrament."

This demonstration was just the first. The struggle for the right of women to control their own bodies is taking place in the legislature, the courts and in the streets. In the Natick-Framingham area the battle is being waged by the West Suburban Women's Abortion Coalition. To participate, call Mary Rees at 653-8560.

ABORTION IS A WOMAN'S
RIGHT TO CHOOSE!

UNDERSTANDING OVERTIME

(CPS) Today, for all practical purposes, the eight-hour day exists only on paper. In the manufacturing industries the vast majority of contracts include clauses which force workers to put in overtime hours at the discretion of management.

From the point of view of the company, overtime is a financial boon. At first glance, with time-and-a-half, it appears that the company is losing money on overtime work. But the key here is that the company pays no fringe benefits on overtime hours. If pay is \$4 an hour, with \$1.50 in fringes, the actual straight time pay is about \$5.50 an hour. During overtime hours, with time-and-a-half, the rate is \$6 an hour, but there are no fringes, so that the company is actually paying only 50¢ an hour more.

The second part of the overtime bargain for the company comes with the reduced overhead. Most expenses of running a plant are not related to production, but to days the plant is running. Heating, lighting, insurance, interest on loans for capital, land and building taxes, plant cleaning and maintenance, office work and costs, all these are functions of daily use, and for the most part are unrelated to whether the plant is run 8, 16 or 20 hours a day. Thus, when the plant is operating extra hours in a

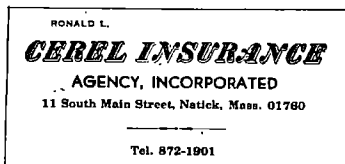


day, production and therefore profit rises, while overhead remains constant.

In addition to straight overhead, the costs of start-up times, lunch breaks, and the like also remain constant, while extra hours per day maximizes use of equipment and machinery.

The contract clauses governing overtime should be rewritten to give each worker the right to refuse overtime. With unemployment as it is, it's immoral to demand of us work that we don't want and don't need. Our free hours are just that: ours. (excerpted from Soft Drink Workers News, 3/72)

ALL TYPES OF automobile INSURANCE



INSTANT motorcycle INSURANCE

WORK in america: a primer

by Gerry Ringer

If you're looking for a decent job this year, expect to be disappointed. The American Establishment--supplier of most jobs--is in a state of moral and social decay. In this state, it is incapable of providing enough jobs; everyone knows that. But, also, the jobs it does provide only embody or camouflage the moral and social decay.

The American economic system is a rip-off at home as well as abroad: Natick Labs needs bodies to exploit in Natick just as surely as Gulf Oil Corporation needs them in Angola (see "Investing in Apartheid," by Jeff Shlager in the April BT).

And the social structure is a

"THE AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM IS A RIP-OFF AT HOME AS WELL AS ABROAD. . . ."

fraudulent hierarchy--a mass ego trip in which the most vicious/or dissociated ones, the most materialistic ones, the most greedy ones, the most hypocritical and most bigoted ones tend to claw their way to the top of the heap.

To hold onto most jobs in this system, you must compete on the terms of the jaundiced majority. Or, if this is too offensive to you, you must at least be willing to follow the orders of people who do compete on these terms. And you must keep fairly quiet about the revulsion you feel as a person confronted with evil. For the American system is an empire now feeding on the evil it exudes. This evil is apparent inside this country wherever you go: in poverty-ridden ghettos, in the blighted and polluted countryside, in employment and food lines, in the assinine and irrelevant courts of law, in the draft for war, in the death-oriented national budget. This evil is apparent abroad in the genocidal Vietnamese War; in America's support of apartheid in Africa; in "counterinsurgency" (Newspeak for combined murder, subversion, torture) in South America, for example, where a four-star general of the U.S. Army commands "our" forces; and in naked economic imperialism across the globe.

GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY

Backing up the evil America wreaks at home and abroad are the government and industry. Without the work done by people in these institutions, the murder and pillage and destruction and rape and exploitation committed in the name of America would be impossible. Without people willing to perform the jobs supplied by government, the evil could not be institutionalized, defended, "legitimized." Without people willing to perform the jobs supplied by industry, America would not have the hardware needed to carry out its projects.

Many federal, state, and local governmental jobs that appear on the surface to offer wholesome work turn out to be deviously oriented--for example, surplus food programs designed primarily to keep up farm prices, and only secondarily to feed the hungry; and Voice of America broadcasting

that has as its main goal the propagandizing of peoples whose hands are cleaner than ours.

THE SOCIETY THAT IS NOT SANE

With government and industry, the Establishment includes "business" in general. As Eric Fromm points out in *The Sane Society*, American capitalism and those who pursue it tend to harbor assumptions that violate human nature, exploiting human bodies and the human soul for the sake of material profit. For example, in this issue of BT, John Rees examines how unions might respond when companies like GE and ITT exploit the health of their workers in the headlong scramble for profits ("Unite for Safe Working Conditions," p. 4).

In America most jobs have no real meaning; the great majority of workers now detest their jobs. The industrial revolution has all but eliminated the craftsmanship ethic that gave the worker his sense of relationship to his materials, that reinforced his sense of form and art and usefulness.

In a modern technological society like ours, other forces take over the destruction of values once the craftsmanship ethic is dead: "products," whether they be Palmolive or propaganda, are for the most part conceived for the primary purpose of out-and-out profit or narrow self-interest; there can be little worker satisfaction in packaging ten thousand cakes of handsoap--and just as little in packaging ten thousand American lies.

Richard J. Whalen was for a time a speech-writer for Richard Nixon. What he writes of Nixon summarizes the cheapening effect of American capitalist values on everything they touch: "endowed with a 'superior intelligence,' Nixon 'put an intellectual's mind in the service' of a salesman's temperament. He did not express ideas, he put them across--and in the process turned them into something else. He did more than that. By reducing politics to winning elections, he discouraged those who agreed with him from

"AMERICAN CAPITALISM AND THOSE WHO PURSUE IT TEND TO HARBOR ASSUMPTIONS THAT VIOLATE HUMAN NATURE, EXPLOITING HUMAN BODIES AND THE HUMAN SOUL FOR THE SAKE OF MATERIAL PROFIT."

looking and reaching up." The former speech writer continues: "I was ashamed of being in the company of mediocre merchandisers behind a facade concealing a sad mixture of cynicism, apprehension, suspicion and fear--especially fear."

That description of Nixon would do as an introduction to any study of the character of "the boss" in America. If the worker cannot relate to the product, neither can he relate to those who run him on the job. On top of all that, the system is set up so that one worker is forced into grim competition against another. At Sears the woman who knuckles under to clothing regulations will keep her job; the woman who puts on slacks will get fired (here the

competition is to see who is snivelling enough to suit the boss' need to control the lives of his subordinates). If you drive for Tommy's Taxi, you are thrown into competition against others who drive for the same company; and every one of you are further-more into competition with drivers from Smitty's, Al's, Center. In taxi-cab driving you do not make a fair wage, a living wage; yet, even at the level of bare subsistence, you and your fellow drivers are forced by the system to act like a mess of vipers in a snake pit. You are cut off from effective sympathy with others who are victimized by the system that is victimizing you. And consider your passengers: in the large majority, they are cheapskate tippers (around Framingham they "think of a taxi cab as a public utility--the meter tells the total price!" according to one driver).

"THEY ASSUME THAT YOUR CRAVING FOR THINGS WILL OUTWEIGH YOUR REPUGNANCE AT PERFORMING MEANINGLESS WORK."

Furthermore, your passengers are people deriving their livelihood from "work" performed in the American Establishment--they are exploited, but they are rip-off in their own turn; and how can you respect yourself when you know they are using you to get them to the places where they perform their mockeries of work? Your taxi passengers are all too likely to be middle class "successes" like the ones who pulled the mini-inquisition on Paula Casey (see "Comunidad Unida: an Employment Problem," p. 1, this issue of BT). For doing something that seemed "meaningful and uncompromising" Ms. Casey was crucified in the name of the respectable American dollar; for the guardians of "business mentality" wind up being the practitioners of it, too--"they fuck you over just as bad as the man at Honeywell or Raytheon."

MOTIVATIONS FOR "WORK"

Ask yourself why you desire to find a job.

If you are a student, it may be that you want independence from your parents, or that you need money for a car or a bike, or that you want to get married, or go to California. Or you may want to try your hand at some kind of work that intrigues you (you'd better have pull in this year of peak unemployment). If you are out of school, you may carry heavier burdens: you may be forced to support a family, to pay child-support, or simply to support yourself! Certainly, young people over the past ten years have shot down any earlier prejudice that it is somehow good to work--that just working itself is somehow virtuous or worthwhile. How could that be so in a country where work is degraded by the evil inherent in the motives of those in power?

Regardless of the innocence or worthwhileness of your motives as a job-seeker, the vast majority of employers today will co-opt your motives to suit their own needs. And in the vast and dreary "job market" employers know they have one effective means of guaranteeing that people will keep on trying to hold their jobs. It is a means that gained great strength during the industrial revolution in the big cities about the turn of the century. It imposes two complementary (and sick) emotions on people: craving and fear--the carrot and the stick. The carrot

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--the craving for manufactured goods and services--takes advantage of the assumption that humans are greedy by nature: you crave things, but to obtain them you must work for money first. They assume that your craving for things will outweigh your repugnance at performing meaningless work.

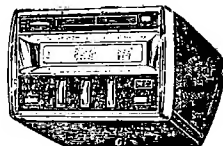
And the stick--fear of hunger, of exposure to the elements, of sickness, of old-age--fear is the remedy to that other basic human quality: laziness. "Either work or go without": under capitalism, that threat to workers and their families lurks behind the glossy surface of every "employee relations" counter.

GIRD UP YOUR LOINS TO DO MENIAL WORK

During the past three years the "job market" has become an increasingly dreary scene. Right now, the greater Boston area, there is an epidemic of unemployment and underemployment. Examples of underemployment are the thousands of teachers who are filling in as waitresses, telephone operators, cab drivers, janitors, sales people, factory laborers. The ranks of engineers and middle-level executives also have

continued on page 11

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Community Center

continued from page 1

Miller (Honeywell) of the Finance Subcommittee, told me of the terrible, agonizing dilemma and decision they had faced.

A fund-raising packet had been prepared for the area businesses. The names of Forbes and Miller and their company affiliations had appeared on the letterhead. This subcommittee had felt compelled to decide that the English translation of the March issue could not be included in the fund-raising packet. It would possibly be offensive to these businesses. The articles were inaccurate. Also, the articles were personally embarrassing and compromising to Fran Miller of Honeywell.

Miller graciously said the Board need not concern itself with his personal embarrassment; the overall thing was more important than the awkwardness of his personal situation.

Two phrases stuck in my mind at this point. I know I heard them correctly, but it was difficult to believe.

"You're on the Board of the Center and look what they're printing about your company." I regret what I didn't print, not what appeared.

Also—"You just can't bite the hand that feeds you."

The whole thing was taking on a nightmarish quality. I was so tired from putting out the issue that it was hard to focus on what was happening and hard to answer charges. I was hardly given a chance to speak and no one seemed to be listening anyway. They were all crouched around that table waiting, each one waiting for the right instant when he or she would have a turn to pounce on me.

Those 12 people got louder and more hysterical and more emotional and hostile and critical. I went more and more into shock. I couldn't recognize these people as the ones who had hired me and with whom I thought I shared some goals and beliefs.

I was told I had alienated Rox-

"SO, I WAS LULLED INTO A FALSE SENSE OF MY (EDITORIAL) FREEDOM . . . WHICH DIED THE MOMENT BOARD MEMBERS FELT THEMSELVES UNDER SLIGHT PRESSURE FROM THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY."

bury Carpet and Honeywell from the Community Center. I doubt their commitment anyway. Comunidad Unida had carried several articles on the attempts of Spanish-speaking workers at Roxbury to obtain representation in the union. Also, I had had a 'discussion' with Dan Hussey, personnel manager at Roxbury Carpet, at a business luncheon where I was trying to raise money for Comunidad Unida. Hussey is one of the most racist, sexist pigs I have ever met.

I was told I was irresponsible in my choice of topics for coverage by Comunidad Unida. It seemed that along with the responsibility of publishing the newspaper, I was also responsible for the image

in the community of Honeywell, Roxbury Carpet and any other businesses.

"What good do you think these articles are going to do?" Ernestine Young screeched. "Do you think they're going to help get Puerto Ricans jobs?"

"Who are you writing this paper for? Who is important? It doesn't seem you think the Puerto Ricans are important!" another voice accused.

"Maybe I'm paranoid," Rev. Gaines said to me, "but why in the last three issues have you run articles on Honeywell and Roxbury Carpet?"

"Yes, Paula," Atty. Aronson said, "Why has the newspaper selected these companies as targets?"

With unemployment in the Puerto Rican community running about 12%, there was no question in my mind and in others', that minority employment and what local businesses were doing about it was a valid topic.

"Let me ask you," Fr. Vasaturo hollered. He was outraged. "Is what you've written in here fair? Does it tell both sides?"

Working for Whom?

As editor, I had never pretended that Comunidad Unida was going to be objective or even could be. Had they forgotten the purpose of the newspaper? Comunidad Unida was a newspaper about Puerto Ricans, their community, their problems, their living conditions. It presented their opinions and also tried to develop new opinions and new knowledge.

I wasted my time there, trying to answer their charges. I was handicapped because of what I had thought was a common set of goals that I shared with that board. I thought they wanted to publish a newspaper as much as I did—a newspaper for the Spanish-speaking community which we hoped would help to unify it. A newspaper which would expose how Puerto Ricans were being fucked over when it came to jobs, to housing, to welfare, to medical care, to education. We hoped that with the newspaper we could begin to fight these things.

For me, it was the ideal job. I could use my abilities, training and experience without feeling I was being co-opted or compromising myself. (I'd formerly worked on an "establishment" newspaper which I left in disgust after 8 months.)

Also, I was earning a living wage and could start to pay off my debts for an over-priced, over-rated college education. I had spent several months unemployed and floundering, then six months in a federal Manpower program, before being hired by the Center in December. But it was worth the previous shit. I had found what I considered meaningful, alternative employment.

My employment agreement with the Board was simply that I had been hired as editor of the newspaper. My responsibility was to produce that newspaper.

Never had the Board said "you must not print this" or "you must print that." In fact, many times Board members had assured me, as we began to get into advertising which I strongly opposed, that in any conflict between an editorial policy and an advertiser, the advertiser would go.

So, I was lulled into a false sense of my freedom and my security based on the Board's support of the concept of editorial freedom which died the moment Board members felt themselves under slight pressure from the business community.

Two and a half hours after the meeting began, they were through

"JOBS LIKE THE ONE I WAS JUST FIRED FROM ARE THE WORST, THE MOST DECEPTIVE, THE MOST PERSONALLY DESTRUCTIVE. . . ."

with me. But I was through with them, too. I could never work for people I had no respect for, even if they decided to give me the chance, which I doubted.

A week later, April 12, the Board met again with the staff. I was not invited nor was I ever informed as to the outcome of this meeting. On the 14th I phoned the Center for information and was told by Fr. Vasaturo that the Board had decided not to continue with me as the editor of the paper. There would be some new publication which he described as "lighter, brighter, easier to read, more interesting, with a Puerto Rican editor. More Puerto Ricans would work on it and members of the Board would help."

At this same time I found out I had mono and couldn't work for the next few weeks. April 21 I received a phone call from Ria McNiff, chairperson. She informed me that the Board had decided they no longer wished me to continue as editor of the newspaper. However they felt that they would like one more issue to appear—a sort of transitional issue to whatever kind of publication they would sponsor in the future. The Board also felt sure I could use another paycheck. I refused.

So, here I am. I'm 24. I'm unemployed. I can't collect unemployment compensation. The Center is a non-profit organization not required by law to pay an employer's tax. The Center never felt obligated to inform their employees of this situation. (I was informed of this April 26 by Ria McNiff.) However, the Board has now decided to make it a policy to inform all current employees as well as all future employees that they will not be eligible for unemployment compensation.)

I have \$156.92 in severance pay promised. I'm in debt for my high-priced education. In the past two years I haven't held a job for more than eight months. I'm discouraged. I'm disillusioned. I'm frustrated. I'm full of hatred.

I want to know what happens to people like me? People who think it's a basic individual right to be able to earn a living doing what they can do, doing what is meaningful and uncompromising.

Jobs like the one that I was just fired from are the worst, the most deceptive, the most personally destructive jobs. These are the jobs that seem to offer a hope of choice in this rotten system, a hope of personal freedom and dignity. But, it's not true. In the end, they fuck you over just as bad as the man at Honeywell or Raytheon, only from the very beginning he could be recognized for what he is.

And in the end, I'm left feeling betrayed and isolated and resentful because those 12 people had the power to make me feel once again that my beliefs have no place in this society, that my abilities can only be abused and co-opted. I'm labeled now—an "employment problem."

So where can I live? Where can I work now? What happens to people like me?

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news

continued from page 1

have been told they can keep farming."

Yet, in spite of the overwhelming evidence that the people of South Vietnam do not back the Thieu-Ky regime, the South Middlesex News continues to favor forcing the Saigon dictatorship down the throats of the Vietnamese. While it applauds both Nixon's doomed Vietnamization program and his recent escalation of the war, it viciously slurs those Americans who demand an end to American involvement in the Indochina war. At the same time, the NEWS assailed critics of Nixon's murderous bombing policy by claiming in its editorial of April 14 that war critics are "playing with words" when they attack the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong as an escalation of the war.

Playing with Words

It is indeed ironic that the South Middlesex News should charge opponents of the war with "playing with words". For no one has abused the English language more than Richard Nixon and his Pentagon when they seek to foist on the American people such absurd term terms as "protective reaction," "incursion," and "pacification."

When the U.S. forces marched into Cambodia, the South Middlesex News, in its usual knne-jerk pro-Nixon fashion, dutifully informed us this should not be considered an invasion, but an "incursion." Yet, when Vietnamese fight to free their own country of the corrupt Thieu-Ky regime, the NEWS once again parrots the Nixon line.

The presence of Vietnamese on Vietnamese soil, according to the NEWS, constitutes an invasion. However, the presence of U.S. troops on Cambodian soil, declared the NEWS, was not an invasion, but merely some sort of "incursion." Who are the editors of the South Middlesex News trying to kid?

Owner and Editors: To Arms!
If the owners and editors of the South Middlesex News feel it so necessary that the corrupt Thieu regime be supported with the blood of young Americans and South Vietnamese forced to fight against their will, then perhaps they would be willing to volunteer to fight for the Saigon dictators. They could then take the place of those young American and South Vietnamese soldiers who do not want their blood shed for the wretched Saigon administration.

In so volunteering, the owners and editors of the NEWS would also be performing an outstanding community service. For at long last the people of our area would be rid of that severe blight on our community known as the South Middlesex News.

by Jeff Shlager

'work'

continued from page 9

been hard hit by rising unemployment.

With hundreds of thousands of professionals out of work and seeking jobs, in a time of recession like this it becomes all the harder for the young and inexperienced to find desirable work.

The Nixon administration has

predicted that as employment levels rise, the number of unemployed must necessarily rise, too. When you're looking for a job, it is important to realize that such ideas have been widely accepted by our rulers--and so we are all supposed to feel comfortable with an 8% unemployment rate, or higher. The brunt of unemployment falls on women (see Maria DeFelice's article, "Facts About Women Workers," p. 5 of this issue of BT), teen-agers, veterans (some 400,000 Vietnam vets are out of work), minorities such as Puerto Ricans, and older workers who have been employed all their lives.

Concurrently, on the "labor market" any individual now has a markedly decreased value. And, once you have gotten a job, you are more likely to be treated like a cog in a machine: you "measure, up" or else you will be fired and replaced all the more swiftly.


MENIAL WORK CAN BE AN EDUCATION

Our rulers and their managerial hierarchy realize that the alienation of people from meaningless "work" is a major national problem. This is shown by the growth of schools devoted to the arts of "employee relations," "industrial psychology," "human engineering." Unhappy workers can be conditioned to endure their jobs--endlessly.

If you take a menial job, resist the phoney pressures that are put on you to make you accept your lot. Instead, use your job as a means to a more profound understanding of American values.

If you work as a waitress, this is your chance to digest in your own guts the degrading effects of our society's status and class

PAGE 11



pig

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Given for service to the ruling class beyond the call of duty and payoff, to the \$15.95 bargain by Robert L. Noland, *Industrial Mental Health and Employee Counseling*. A duplicate award is given to the publisher, Behavioral Publications, whose description of the book we quote (emphasis ours):

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orientations. If you drive a cab, you will learn the innermost "roadmaps" of the ego trip the middle class takes at the psychological expense of menials. If you wash dishes, or sweep floors, you will have time to ask yourself whether America's goals and values are worthy of your grinding labor.

And then, too: notice on what basis people are accorded dignity and respect in our society. Look at the faces, the eyes, the mouths. You may decide that you do not crave respect on these terms; you may learn that you have an inner dignity that American pigs cannot see because their hearts are hard, their souls dried up.

If you dig the meaning while you dig the ditches, a genuine revolution of humanity will have taken root in your heart--and you will be on the track of becoming an educated person in spite of all the odds against you.

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WHAT'S GOING ON?

"The Automated Battlefield" -- a slide presentation showing the electronic air war in Southeast Asia. Wed., May 10, at 8:00pm at the Framingham Centre Library. free. Religious Society of Friends.

MEMORIAL DAY COOK-OUT to benefit Natick Peace Action, small charge for food. May 29, 1:00pm. at the Beth's, 177 Cottage St., Natick. RSVP 655-0797, 653-8560.

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